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THE SWAN

THE MAGAZINE OF SLOUGH GRAMMAR SCHOOL

No. 30

July, 1964

EDITORIAL

In the pages that follow we hope you will find continuing evidence of a vigorous society. School teams have had an unusually successful year and outdoor activities and enterprise have so increased that we have included them in a separate section. The number of school societies is also impressive. But it is not the purpose of this editorial to indulge in uncritical complacency, for a closer examination of these society reports gives considerable food for thought.

The wide range and diversity of their activities would seem to indicate that most members of the school took societies seriously and gave them their full support. But how rarely is this the case and how seldom do some of these societies meet! Whether this apathy is due to the officers or the members is debatable.

Partly indicative of this state of mind and the reliance of societies on a few members for their drive can be seen by the way societies see-saw up and down from year to year. This year has seen the revival of several societies which last year gave every indication of being merely corpses. But many of last year's active societies have now passed into a world of inactive gloom. Too many societies are resting on too few people.

One possible explanation of this is that too many societies—even amongst those which function regularly—are in fact run almost exclusively for the Vith Form. One only has to observe how few people from the lower school ever attend meetings to realise that something is wrong. The lower school outnumbers the Vith Form by about 3-1, yet at most society meetings the Vith Form is in the majority. So far, too, there are very few societies for juniors. Only the Debating Society and the S.C.M. make any provision for their junior members, and so a great wealth of enthusiasm in the junior school is left untapped.

On looking back through past 'Swans', one becomes aware of the increasing number of societies. As recently as 1962, there were only sixteen societies, most of whom provided in their reports evidence of considerable activity. This year there are reports from twenty-six societies, some of which do not indicate much activity. It is perhaps permissible to speculate that with so much diversity of activity in other fields, the growth of societies is outstretching the supply of energy needed to run them.

One final point on this vexed question is that of money. School societies are trapped in a vicious circle of finance. Members, who have seen a history of apathy in a society, are at least extremely reticent about subscribing more than a token sixpence to the society. But what use is sixpence today? This meanness on the part of members leaves societies almost without funds, and so they are unable to pay for films or any other activity in which they may wish to engage. No society has yet been able to summon up enough loyalty amongst its members to persuade them to pay a realistic contribution in return for a respectable programme.

SCHOOL OFFICIALS

School Captain: P. Hinchcliffe (Autumn and Spring Terms); B. Higginson (Summer Term).

Vice-Captains: D. Garner and E. Thomas (Autumn and Spring Terms); S. Haiz and C. Weightman (Summer Term).

Prefects: M. Baker, J. Bostock, D. Boul, P. Cookman-Roberts, P. Dando, M. Earl, M. Freestone, M. Holder, D. Jeacock, E. Lucas-Smith, A. Mayo, W. Merritt, R. Moss, T. Murphy, B. Pickering, D. Pratt, A. Quentin, C. Ramsdale, P. Robson, M. Rouse, A. Singleton, P. Slater, H. Smith, C. Timms, B. Thorp, J. Trigg, M. Ward, P. Webber.

<i>Cricket Captain</i>	D. Fox.
<i>Soccer Captain</i>	D. Stenning
<i>Hockey Captain</i>	B. Higginson.
<i>Rugby Captain</i>	B. Kelley.
<i>Tennis Captain</i>	E. Thomas.
<i>Basketball Captain</i>	M. Rouse.
<i>Athletics Captain</i>	P. Hinchcliffe.
<i>Cross Country Captain</i>	C. Bass.

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SCHOOL NOTES

School is proud of its members who have valuably offered their services during the year to raise some £200 for 'War on Want' by collections, jumble sales and concerts, and as flag sellers for various charities.

We were glad to see Philip Gardner in September on his return from voluntary service in Southern India. In October he went to Sheffield University to commence his degree course in Civil Engineering.

Congratulations to Dr. W. J. W. Hines (1947-1955) upon his engagement to Miss Grainne Diver, of County Donegal, Ireland, and upon his recent award by London University of a Doctorate for Medical Research.

Once again our tennis pair, Barry Kelley and Colin Timms playing at Wimbledon, won the Ramsden Plate Cup.

A new school enterprise was begun this Easter when a party went to Plas-y-Brenin, Snowdonia, for an initiation course in mountaineering and canoeing.

The excellent programme of the Christmas Concert at the end of the autumn term was greatly enjoyed by parents and friends, who crowded the school hall. This was the last public function held in it.

Last July we took farewell of six members of staff: Mr. G. H. Avis was appointed lecturer in Russian at the Liverpool College of Commerce. Mr. A. R. Bailey went to be Master in charge of P.E. at a Middlesex grammar school. Mr. D. E. Howard became second Physics Master in a Birmingham school. Mr. R. W. Willett was appointed to the English staff

at Archbishop Tenison's School, London. Mr. D. F. Shotton went to Essex to become Senior German Master at Buckhurst Hill Grammar School. Mr. T. J. Shelley became a lecturer in the Central London School of Arts and Crafts. In the autumn we also said goodbye to Mrs. R. Taylor, who has gone with her husband to U.S.A. We welcomed in September Mr. D. K. Clarke from Oxford University Dept. of Physics, Mr. A. A. Henderson from King Alfred College, Winchester, to be Assistant Master for P.E., Mr. D. R. Joyner from Reading University to assist Mr. Moutrie in the Music Department, and Mr. D. A. Rogers from Cambridge University, who came to teach English and Latin. Miss F. Thomas later joined us to replace Mrs. Taylor as Laboratory Stewardess.

Again this July we shall say goodbye to several Masters. We congratulate Mr. D. S. Madge on becoming Senior English Master at Witney Grammar School, Oxford. He has been with us for ten years and we owe to him the steady training of our cross-country teams to their present excellent standard. Congratulations, too, to Mr. R. E. Malin on his appointment as Senior Modern Languages Master at Kingsbury Grammar School, Dunstable, after six active years here.

Mr. E. J. File is leaving the English Department to go to Bristol University for post-graduate work in drama. He has shown ample proof of his ability as a producer and we are grateful for the quality he has given to school dramatics. Mr. W. F. C. Swann is leaving teaching to commence a career in accountancy. Mr. F. T. Blagrove goes to Southern Rhodesia to teach Mathematics in Salisbury. Mr. G. H. Evans is to be Senior Geography Master at a grammar school in Glamorgan. We wish all of them success in their new spheres of activity.

Members of our Outdoor Activities Club were very proud to act as hosts to members of other schools and to receive an informal visit from Sir John Hunt last October. Some of them met him again this Easter whilst at Plas-y-Brenin.

Our congratulations to those who have gained university distinctions this year. Michael Taylor has gained two open scholarships in Mathematics, one at Leicester University, and one at Imperial College, London. He has decided to go to Leicester. Clive Weightman has an open exhibition in Mathematics at Imperial College, London. Peter Robson has been awarded the Berkeley Lowe Residential Scholarship in History at St. Andrew's University, Scotland.

It is very gratifying that of 14 boys seeking admission to Oxford and Cambridge this year, 9 have gained places. At Cambridge, Philip Hinchcliffe goes to Pembroke College to read English, Douglas Garner to Gonville and Caius College to read Modern Languages, Ian Singleton to King's College to read Economics, and Edward Thomas to Clare College for Mathematics. At Oxford, Brian Higginson will read Chemistry at Magdalen College, Michael Holloway will read Chemistry at Wadham College, David Jeacock, Law at Exeter College, Alan Singleton and Barry Walker will go to St. John's College to read Physics.

A former pupil of the school, Frederick Davey, has come from Leeds University to Imperial College, London to do post-graduate research in Geophysics, and Brian Summerhayes has gone from Imperial College, London to Oxford University to do research in radioactive dating.

The programme of operatic excerpts given in December by a Covent Garden Opera group, and an instrumental performance in February by the Croxford Piano trio were very much enjoyed.

Congratulations to Mr. B. A. A. Knight (1953-56), formerly second History Master here, on his becoming Head Master of Chard Secondary School, Somerset.

The Shakespeare Anniversary programme of drama and music given on the 400th anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare involved more than 100 members of the school, and gave great pleasure to all who attended.

We were pleased to see Mr. T. M. Hooley (1959-62) in the autumn on furlough from Cyprus.

Our congratulations to Peter Cookman-Roberts for having been selected as the County nominee for the Aberdovey Sea Course in October, and for subsequently gaining a Royal Naval scholarship.

A group from our sixth form went to Wycombe Royal Grammar School to take part in the Annual S.C.M. Conference, where Dr. Robinson's 'Honest to God' was discussed.

The linguists of the sixth form and their producers, Mr. R. E. Malin, Mr. J. S. Boardall, Mr. G. Fallows and Mr. F. E. Dutton are to be congratulated on their performances within a fortnight before Easter of the German play 'Der Hauptmann von Köpenick', and the French play 'Topaze'.

A most successful joint production of Benjamin Britten's 'St. Nicholas', by choral members of our school and the choir of St. Bernard's Convent School, was given in a public performance on Sunday, 15th December.

Our congratulations to the several members of staff who have married within the last year. Mr. A. A. Henderson, Mr. D. F. Shotter, Mr. W. K. Norris and Mr. D. A. Turner.

In July we said goodbye to M. Emile Buenocore, who returned to France after spending a year with us. In September we welcomed M. Yves Lombard and Herr Wolf Kuzniarek.

As the new buildings of the school are completed we become more and more aware of the quality and design and of the workmanship that has been assured by the County Architect and Messrs. Hartley & Sons, the Contractors. Our new and adapted buildings are something of which we can be justly proud.

Praise is equally due to the staff and boys who have maintained their standards of work among the considerable chaos and noise of building operations, now in their seventeenth month.

OBITUARY

During the year two former members of the school staff have died: Mr. E. P. C. Smith, M.A., who was former Senior Master of the school, and Mr. W. A. Jones, B.A., who was Senior History Master. We express our deep sympathy with their families.

HAIL

R. Allen, P. Appleby, D. Badby, R. Bailey, T. Bailey, A. Bastin, J. Bloomfield, D. Bocking, K. Brady, D. Braxton, G. Brickell, B. Brooks, A. Burroughs, P. Challinor, N. Chilcott, P. Coleman, R. Cosh, S. Cordery, R. Cowland, P. Dempsey, A. Denham, P. Dent, S. Digby, S. Dockray, A. Doig, I. Donnachie, R. Edmunds, R. Elder, P. Elliott, P. Ellis, J. Evans, P. Evans, M. Finn, P. Fletcher, K. French, S. Goddard, K. Godfrey, P. Gough, A. Green, M. Hammond, L. Haskins, E. Hayton, A. Higgins, P. Hodgson, J. Hogg, P. Hughes, J. Ismay, M. Jarvis, R. Jeeps, J. Jeffrey, G. Joplin, A. Kaye, D. Lacey, E. Landale, S. Lavelle, M. Lewington, N. Locke, B. Lonnor, C. Low, M. Luckie, D. Maitland, N. Martin, S. Meacham, A. McGlinchey, I. Murray, N. Nash, S. Neate, J. Owen, R. Parry-Jones, P. Pearce, A. Pickett, C. Pope, J. Price, P. Rainey, C. Rotherham, G. Sapiets, R. Savage, S. Scattergood, C. Seddon, M. Seeley, S. Sharp, S. Shaw, C. Smith, G. Stickland, B. Szulc, R. Szymkowitz, M. Thompson, S. Tregonning, D. Upton, G. Watterson, R. Wilson, C. Wood, R. Wood, A. Wye.

FAREWELL

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R. Croker, J. Cruickshank, M. Daly, R. Darnell, G. Douglas, G. Edwards, C. Elderfield, C. Evans, R. Galvin, D. Garner, D. Garrod, M. Gent, J. Godber, A. Gooch, C. Goodall, K. Gould, R. Grantham, M. Hatt, N. Hearn, K. Hickson, P. Hinchcliffe, C. Hughes, J. Humphries, B. Hyman, R. Johnson, R. Kingston, S. Kockanowski, M. Kolaszynski, E. Lear, J. LePage, R. Lisney, R. Loomes, C. Louch, B. Malone, K. Mathias, R. Moore, D. Morris, D. Morrow, A. McCullough, A. Muir, P. Newby, P. O'Leary, T. Organ, J. Osborn, R. Paice, J. Pietron, J. Powrie, J. Prout, I. Pudney, D. Ray, D. Roberts, I. Singleton, C. Sherlock, R. Sherlock, P. Sirey, R. Smith, M. Solomon, R. Steggall, D. Symes, N. Tanejr, C. Timms, E. Thomas, G. J. Thomas, G. Thomas, C. Thurston, A. Trigg, J. Virgo, P. Virgo, P. Wakefield, D. Watson, E. Welsh, J. Wheeler, P. Whelan, S. White, W. White-Taylor, C. Wood.

PRIZE WINNERS 1962-63 SUBJECT PRIZES

FORMS I:

Overton, R. (English Language); Starling, G. (English Literature); Black, J. (French); Mildenhall, D. (Mathematics); Kenneally, D. (Geography); Morris, C. (R.I., History); Bharadwaj, V. (Science); Cumper, T. (Music); Blacker, M. (Art); Wilson, P. (Technical Drawing).

FORMS II:

Kitson, D. (English Language); Stevens, P. (English Literature); Harris, R. (Latin); Boulton, K. (French); Feather, M. (German); Gordon, D. (Mathematics); Paxton, M. (Geography); Pell, J. (History); Denham, M. (Science, Art); Dougan, K. (Woodwork); Jones, A. (Metalwork); Froggatt, E. (Religious Instruction).

FORMS III:

Gamble, F. (English Language); Morton, A. (English Literature); Pratt, M. (Latin, French); Elder, J. (German, Mathematics); Whelan, J. (Geography); Hammond, G. (History); Pratt, C. (Science); Whitely, C. (Music); Mansfield, C. (Art); Morrell, J. (Woodwork); Wilkinson, G. (Metalwork).

FORMS IV:

Hannam, R. (English Language, Biology); Hardy, R. (English Literature); Potter, A. (Latin); Conlon, P. (French); Tindall, T. (German); Overton, J. (Mathematics); Bolland, R. (Geography); Hillier, H. (History); Allcorn, R. (Chemistry); Wallace, G. (Physics); Gleave, D. (General Science); Weller, A. (Music); Hamilton, J. (Art); Allen, J. (Woodwork); Fraser, K. (Metalwork).

FORMS V:

Flynn, N. (English Language); Raisbeck, J. (English Literature); White, D. (Latin); Gearing, A. (French); Towersey, A. (German); Spalding, R. (Mathematics); Lynch, J. (Geography); Martin, J. (History); Parker, M. (Chemistry); Gardner, L. (Physics); Grantham, R. (General Science); Bass, C. (Biology); Field, H. (Music); Taylor, F. (Art); Wood, T. (Woodwork).

LOWER SIXTH:

Jeacock, D. (English Literature); Robson, P. (Latin); Griffiths, P. (French, Russian); Timms, C. (German, Music); Walker, B. (Pure Mathematics, Physics); Singleton, A. (Applied Mathematics); Light, G. (Economics, Geography); Earl, M. (History); Boul, D. (Chemistry); Dando, P. (Biology); Briers, F. (Art).

UPPER SIXTH:

Hinchcliffe, P. (English Literature, French); Garner, D. (Latin); Moss, R. (German); Bull, G. (German); Taylor, M. (Pure Mathematics); Thomas, E. (Applied Mathematics); Bradley, P. (Geography); Singleton, I. (History); Muir, A. (Chemistry); Weightman, C. (Physics); Gooch, A. (Art); Newby, P. (Economics); Louch, C. (Botany); Hickson, K. (Higher Mathematics).

SPECIAL PRIZES

Headmaster's Prize, Special Music Prize (Open Scholarship in Music to Emmanuel College, Cambridge):	Colin Timms.
Dramatic Prizes, Senior:	Kolaszynski, M.
Junior:	Morton, A.
Library Prizes:	Attock, B.; Davis, C.
Todd Memorial Cup for Poetry:	Hinchcliffe, P.
Magazine Prizes:	Kolaszynski, M.; Liszka, A.
Prize for Initiative (New Prize given by an old pupil, Commander G. L. Milne, R.N.):	Pell, A.
Ford Cup for Voluntary Service:	Murphy, T.
Old Paludians' House Shield (for Football, Hockey and Cricket):	Gray House.

DANGER—MEN AT WORK (but not boys)

Those among us, who like to look back at past editions of 'The Swan', will recall the photographs in last year's production. They showed the development of the old 'Junior Playground' and shelter into an intricate mass of girders and, later, these were to be seen half filled with bricks. This year, in their place we have a new hall, a new gym and the first forms in the main school.

We may be justly proud of our new buildings, despite their drawbacks. The hall can now seat all the school. Its new chairs do not have to be individually clipped together for every dramatic performance. The stage may be taken apart for dramatic productions and the curtains surrounding the building keep the daylight out better. Behind the hall, the new music room has ingenious chairs, and the absence of desks gives far more room. Also, there is a 'props' room, which is far more convenient than the old 'Metro'.

At the other end of the school the old gymnasium allowed the metalwork shop to enlarge and provided fresh accommodation for the woodwork department. The new gym has far more room and apparatus, and may now be used for badminton, besides basketball. The art room, upstairs, may now attract sunlight, hitherto barred from art classes. Now, too, there is a technical drawing room, a maths room and a new history room. Unfortunately, these still must be used as form-rooms. We even have a medical room, but this appears to be redundant except for the annual week of medicals and an occasional oral examination.

Now, the old hall is being converted into a library and classrooms. The old library has a wall built through it to make a masters' marking precinct, while at present the history books 'have their backs to the wall'. Also, the old art room is being converted.

However, we must pay for our benefits. Many of our lessons are interrupted by the banging of hammers, the churning of cement mixers and the din of drills. Indeed, often their noise is nearly as loud as the planes flying overhead, but they at least are momentary. The main corridor and, formerly, the upper corridor were half taken from us, so that it was difficult for two people to pass. Girders came in through the main entrance, and even through the window of Room 7.

The purpose of the new building in the school is to grant us more room. Our Junior School huts, we are told, are to mark the site of a new nursery. Rooms X and Y are temporary and will eventually disappear. Eight new classrooms are, therefore, necessary. We have three, but we will certainly gain no more than five more. This means that when, in about five years time,

the second post-war 'bulge' enters the Grammar School, it will be unable to accommodate them. Does this mean that fresh huts will be erected? Will we lose even more of our playgrounds? Perhaps we will gain more unnecessary lavatories, like that between the old music and history rooms.

But these are questions for the future. Let us at least appreciate what has been done for us in the present.

W.B.



A. Liszka

MUSIC AND DRAMA

The programmes of music and drama presented this year have been very ambitious. In the musical sphere they ranged from a performance of J. S. Bach's cantata 'Give the Hungry Man thy bread' by the school choir and orchestra, to a 'pop' concert given by two school groups, The Ivy Leaves, and The Flowerpot Men. In the field of drama interests were also wide. Plays were presented in English, French and German, while an evening of music and drama was also arranged to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of Shakespeare's birth.

The important thing about all these ventures is the fact that, at a time when most entertainment is purely passive, there are many people still willing to accept the challenge of participation. I am sure that everyone who sang, played, acted, or helped backstage, enjoyed the chance of taking part in something creative and alive, and I am sure that they enjoyed giving pleasure to their audiences.

D. J. PRATT.

MARY STUART, by Schiller

(Translated by Stephen Spender)

Schiller's 'Mary Stuart' is without doubt an extremely difficult choice for a School Play. It lacks action, except for the suicide of Mortimer in Act IV. The play is in fact a series of lengthy dialogues and equally lengthy soliloquies, and as a result one can easily see the difficulties in producing such a play with an inexperienced and amateur cast. There is a definite danger that the audience can become weary of the long speeches, and if this is allowed to occur then the whole impact of the play is lost. Mr. E. J. File realised the obvious limitations of his cast and intelligently cut any of the speeches which were in themselves undramatic, and shortened others; in doing this he

sacrificed some of the more detailed analysis of character which he hoped to bring out of the cast themselves. In this he was successful; in the main his actors were convincing and were generally able to hold interest even through the slowest moving action, although the scene between Mary and Melvil, in which she is given communion, tended to drag a little. This is a shame because the scene in itself is superbly moving and throws more light on Mary's character.

The most outstanding actor by far was Andrew Morton in the title rôle of Mary; he showed a maturity beyond his years and a close interpretation of Mary's character. He spoke his lines with understanding and conviction, shattering the myth that a boy can neither understand nor portray a woman's emotions. He sank himself so well into the part that any thought of a schoolboy completely vanished and he thus made himself the true 'Star' of the play.

This star, however, did not shine so brightly as to push the others into obscurity, rather he illuminated them. Nelson Bathurst's Sir Amias Paulet was a case in point. His character was nurtured in the scenes with Mary and her spark brought him to life. I personally felt from the play that Sir Amias was less bitter with age than Bathurst's interpretation, but he conveyed some of the good nature and carried his audience well.

Simon Thompson as Sir Amias' nephew, Mortimer, showed a good deal of confidence and was sufficiently relaxed on stage to project the image of the brash, young idealist who wanders out of his depth in the political intrigues. The abundance of confidence, however, led occasionally to a certain slovenliness of speech and a lack of natural vitality which made his dramatic suicide appear a little false.

Keith Elliott's Lord Burleigh was caustic and biased in his attitudes, but like Thompson he lacked the force to match his actions. His performance was marred for me by the disconcertingly awkward way in which he walked and stood; if this was a regal pose then I am afraid that it did not quite come off. This appears to be a very damning criticism of both Elliott and Thompson but they both had much to recommend them. Seeing the play on one night from behind the scenes I was struck by the serious attitude with which both of them took the play, but most of all they are to be commended for a complete understanding of their parts and an ability to put across the essentials convincingly.

Mary's main adversary in the play, Queen Elizabeth, was played by Eric Froggatt. It is true that his movements lacked dignity but Schiller's portrait is not a flattering one, and considering Froggatt's inexperience and the difficulty of the part his was a creditable performance which showed an understanding of the character and an ability to convey this understanding mainly through the speeches.

Garry Hammond's study of the scheming Lord Leicester admirably displayed the internal conflict of love and self advantage and although relaxed before both queens he made the audience aware of the tensions within him.

One of the features of the production was the intelligent use made of music, particularly during the sudden flight of Mortimer. Also to be noted were the fine back cloths painted by the art department under Mr. Di Girolamo. The scenery was changed quietly and efficiently under the direction of Mr. Gibson and one or two awkward moments were handled directly without causing any panic.

From all points of view this was a fine production with intelligent casting; even the small parts, which often in school productions go to those who are willing but lacking in talent, were played with feeling. What was most gratifying was that the whole cast appeared to understand the theme of the play and the subtleties of each character, and what is more, also succeeded in the main in putting them over. Perhaps credit for this must go to the producer, Mr. E. J. File, whose choice of a difficult play proved justified.

E. P. LUCAS-SMITH (U VI).

THE CAST

MARY STUART	Andrew Morton
QUEEN ELIZABETH	Eric Froggatt
HANNAH KENNEDY, Mary's Nurse	Peter Charrett
ROBERT DUDLEY, Earl of Leicester	Gary Hammond
LORD BURLEIGH, Lord High Treasurer	Keith Elliott
SIR AMIAS PAULET, Governor of Fotheringay	Nelson Bathurst
TALBOT, Earl of Shrewsbury	Charles White
SIR WILLIAM DAVIDSON, The Queen's Secretary	Fraser Britton
SIR EDWARD MORTIMER, Paulet's nephew	Simon Thompson
SIR ANDREW MELVIL, friend of Mary	Ian Cartwright
THE EARL OF KENT, Earl Marshal	Gerald Light
COUNT AUBESPINE, Ambassador from France	Roger Hardy
BELLEVUE, an Emissary from Anjou	Roger Barrett
O'KELLY, companion to Mortimer	Paul Stevens
SIR DRUE DRURY	Neil Stuart
AN OFFICER OF THE QUEEN'S GUARD	Roger Hodskins
1st GUARD	Charles Wills
2nd GUARD	Michael Hardwick
SHERIFF OF NORTHAMPTON	William Birmingham
1st PAGE	Donald Bull
2nd PAGE	Jeremy Black
3rd PAGE	David Frankl
1st LADY	Stephen Moss
2nd LADY	Malcolm Harding

Directed by MR. E. J. FILE

Costumes by BLACK LION, BRISTOL; and L. & H. NATHAN
 Settings designed and painted by MR. R. GIROLAMO
 Music chosen by MR. J. MOUTRIE
 Lighting by M. WARD & R. FOWLE
 Furniture by PINWOOD STUDIOS
 Wigs by 'BERT'
 Sound Effects by MR. D. A. ROGERS
 Properties by P. HINCHCLIFFE & E. LUCAS-SMITH
 Stage Manager MR. F. D. GIBSON
 Assistant Stage Managers MR. D. A. ROGERS, A. GEARING
 Prompter N. FLYNN
 Front of House Manager MR. J. WHARMBY
 Assistants to Mr. File D. PARSONS, S. BRADLEY
 Assistants to Mr. Girolamo A. LISZKA, F. BRIERS, F. TAYLOR, R. SCOTT
 Back Stage Assistants G. HESTER, K. BACHELOR, P. B. SMITH, A. PELL,
 G. WALKER, R. SPALDING

THE FRENCH PLAY

TOPAZE by Pagnol

On 19th and 20th March, the French Circle presented the comparatively modern comedy 'Topaze' by Pagnol. The first night enjoyed ample success before a good audience, but the second gave a performance which can only be described with a series of superlatives. Every actor on the stage, without exception, gained such professional confidence in this medium and put so much enthusiasm into his expression and movement that it was difficult to retain the idea that they were schoolboys giving an amateur performance.

All of them, both actors and actresses (for they were indeed very convincing), were obviously enjoying themselves, particularly P. Hinchcliffe, who gave an unparalleled performance as M. Topaze, and this was conveyed to the audience who showed their appreciation by applauding individuals as they left the scene, something which, to my memory, has never happened before with such spontaneity.

Stage management and all movement both behind and in front of the scenes were conducted faultlessly. The only exception was when M. Castel-Benac (alias D. Garner) failed to make his appointed entry when M. Topaze had finished speaking. However, the speed and humour with which Suzie (J. Croker) and Topaze 'ad-libbed' in French was such that the brief gap—during which frantic but restrained signals were made off-stage—merely added to the comedy of the scene.

Certain sections of the audience were in various stages of suppressed laughter throughout the play which was a full length production. Although, occasionally, this momentarily disconcerted those on stage, it certainly gave them the encouragement they deserved.

Congratulations go to all members of the cast, and all those connected with the production, especially Mr. G. Fallows and Mr. R. E. Malin who must have put in much of their time, energy and enthusiasm.

H. SMITH (U VI).

CAST

(In order of appearance).

SEGUEVILLE, a pupil of the Pension Muche Robert Hancock
TOPAZE, a master at the Pension Muche Philip Hinchcliffe
ERNESTINE, daughter of M. Muche Norman Flynn
MUCHE, headmaster of the Pension Muche Robert Moss
TAMISE, colleague and friend of Topaze David Pratt
PANICAULT, a master at the Pension Muche Keith Rowe
SUZY COURTOIS, friend and associate of Castel-Benac John Croker

Pupils of the Pension Muche

JUSSERAND Nicholas Alexander
BLONDET Barry Cooke
CORDIER David Gordon
TRONCHE-BORINE David Rogerson
DURANT-VICTOR Stephen Bell
PITART-VERGNOLLES Donald Bull

REGIS CASTEL-BENAC, a town councillor, friend of Suzy ... Douglas Garner
ROGER DE BERVILLE, business associate of Castel-Benac, Edward Lucas-Smith
LA DACTYLO, a typist Ian Jordan
L'AGENT DE POLICE, a policeman Graham Walker
LE VENERABLE VIEILLARD, a local newspaper employee ... Robert McGoun

The music recorded and played (under licence) by

THE EDDIE BARCLAY ORCHESTRA.

THE GERMAN PLAY

Der Hauptmann von Köpenick by Carl Zuckmayer

Thursday, 12th March, saw the breaking of yet another cultural barrier at Slough Grammar School, when the first ever German play was performed. The success of the production beyond all expectation will undoubtedly inspire similar efforts in the future.

Credit for the success of 'Köpenick' is all the more due because of the difficulties involved. German is less immediately intelligible than French to an average audience, and of course the greatest difficulty in performing a

foreign play at school is to communicate to a largely ignorant audience what precisely is happening. The average arrival on this evening, dragging with him a vague suspicion that Goethe and Schiller were both German, and both poets, must have had deserved fears about how well his hazy knowledge of German would stand the test, and here Messrs. Boardall and Dutton had an unqualified success in their choice of material, for 'Köpenick' is such a natural comedy, with elements of farce, satire and intellectual humour, that one could thoroughly enjoy it, even if one's precise knowledge of German extended no further than a rough translation of the title.

It is often amusing to study the audience at the production of a foreign comedy: one strains one's ears for the 'laugh-lines' and wonders vaguely whether anyone has noticed that you are laughing just behind everyone else. You envy Jones sitting next to you who always leads the audience with a hearty guffaw, until you realize either that his eyes are riveted on the German master two rows away, or that he is laughing to exhibit his super-knowledge of German rather than at anything amusing which may have been said.

The 'Köpenick' production was remarkable for its complete lack of cultural distinction. The audience responded naturally, readily and warmly to the comedy in the play.

Standards were high throughout: the play was successful as a unit, but individual scenes were of an equally high standard. One felt that any one scene from the play could have well stood on its own as a separate entity, and the individual merit of each scene made the cumulative effect all the greater. Zuckmayer's talent for the comedy of a situation was fully exploited. To my memory only one scene became anything like tedious: this was the more serious episode in the Potsdam Park when Voigt (D. Garner) and Hoprecht (C. Timms) indulge in some philosophy on life and duty, which relies for its effect on fairly close and accurate interpretation, rather more difficult for the layman such as myself. Nevertheless the sustained interest and enthusiasm of the audience was in itself the finest single tribute to both acting and production.

Again, the generally high standard of acting was reinforced by some excellent individual performances. Graham Walker's performance in the opening scene as the prison governor, was superb: he captured to perfection the mannerisms of an old militarist and showed remarkable powers of expression, both verbally and physically. To him, and to the spontaneity of the play's opening must go much of the credit for the play's success. A few bars of song just before the curtains opened arrested the attention of the audience, and the full-blooded comedy of the next ten minutes captured their enthusiasm and attention for the rest of the play.

Keith Rowe gave two excellent performances showing much natural talent for acting. His manner as the off-hand, quasi-superior bureaucrat in the second scene was perfection, and his later appearance as a ruffled and bewildered police official was equally good. His delivery throughout was of a very high standard, probably bettered only by Garner.

Keith Elliott in a delicate rôle, involving a somewhat urgent situation and the need to enter a lavatory, gave a wildly amusing performance, and received the best audience response of the evening. N. Bathurst, cast as a 'nasty' official gave another noteworthy performance. This sort of aggressive rôle suits his stage personality well and there was a very convincing ' nastiness' about his performance. F. Britton was good as an obsequious Jewish tailor, his diction and pronunciation being specially noteworthy, and C. Timms gave competent performances. He took the part of the Mayor, showing the right amount of servility to militarism, but he tended to be a rather vague and anaemic character. He showed poise and good use of the stage, but his acting was rather colourless.

Undoubtedly the best performance was by Douglas Garner in the title rôle. His consistently superb acting in a long and taxing part, coupled with a natural vitality and mischievousness suited to the character, really carried the

play from start to finish. Garner's stage presence was quite remarkable and by sinking his own personality wholeheartedly into the part of Voigt he gave the play a natural quality which clinched its success.

As with all the best comedy the play had serious overtones: a satire on military bureaucracy and stifling officialdom can hardly be described as light, yet the escapades of an ex-convict breaking these barriers of bureaucracy and obtaining control of a whole township for a short time, made superb comedy.

To conclude, the German play made a fitting christening for the new hall, and it is to be hoped that future productions will emulate this initial success.

The following boys took part in the production:—Douglas Garner, Simon Thompson, Gerald Light, Andrew Thatcher, Robert Moss, Robert McGonn, Clive Timms, Adrian Towersey, Ronald Ferris, Graham Walker, Keith Rowe, Elliott, Colin Parker, John Wilkinson, Christopher Morffew.

Nelson Bathurst, Roger Fountain, Fraser Britton, Norman Flynn, Keith

M. R. EARL (U VI).

THE SHAKESPEARE EVENING

Darkness descends on the auditorium. A few hundred people crane their necks and attempt to adjust their spines into the curvature of the new and very wooden chairs. A disembodied voice proclaims: 'Shakespeare at this time fell into bad company'—and a bloated picture of an undeniably debauched-looking stag fills the screen. The 'Shakespeare evening' is under way.

Mr. File and Mr. Moutrie are to be praised for devising this 'Programme of Words and Music to Celebrate the Quatercentenary of the Birth of William Shakespeare', which was all in all a great success.

The idea of linking the items by the use of four black-sweatered, variously spotlighted figures who regurgitated quotations at intervals worked out quite well. However, the changing of the sets in full view of the audience got a mixed reception. Some thought the stage-hands were not professional enough for such prolonged exposure. Others thought it a novel and interesting experiment.

The musicians, both players and singers, performed at their usual high standard, almost overcoming even Vaughan Williams' setting of the 'cloud-capped towers'. Mr. Joyner's brass group were particularly pleasing, playing sturdily, jovially and well.

It was of small consequence that the slides purportedly portraying Shakespeare's life bore little relation to the words which accompanied them. For, Shakespeare himself—as ever—triumphed, in the excerpts from his plays which were presented. Mr. Turner's production from 'Henry IV' ensured a good, brisk kick-off. This was a fine illustration of Shakespeare's bawdy and wit, with C. White as Justice Shallow gaining greatest credit, while S. Thompson as Falstaff spiritedly projected an imitation paunch as if he were the very original. In the 'Henry V' excerpt Lucas-Smith, Pratt and Luckie played their parts forcefully. And Morton, as Lady Macbeth, gave a good portrait in a difficult rôle, although the 'Macbeth' was on the whole a little too melodramatic. In the 'Cymbeline' extract Cumper bore up well: a boy disguised as a girl playing a girl disguised as a boy. But this extract was clearly chosen more for its relation to Shakespeare's last years than for its dramatic content.

Finally, nothing must be allowed to detract from the highlight of the evening: 2C in Mr. Madge's production from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Extreme youth was, of course, on their side; but it should be

emphasised that they were not just 'quite good for Second Formers' but were very good indeed in their own right, with P. H. Wilson as Bottom and P. Wilson as Quince outstanding. Indeed, P. H. Wilson, in the long part of Bottom, was full of vitality throughout; and Shears' costume, make-up and performance as Thisbe had to be seen to be believed—so suitable were they. Most effective, too, were the lion's head and ass's head so skilfully made by Mr. Girolamo. Congratulations, though, to all the very promising Second Form actors in 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', and to all who had any part in this quatercentenary Thursday evening—especially Mr. Shakespeare, the author. If he perseveres, he should do very well. His work may endure.

PATRICK C. SLATER (U VI).

THE ASSEMBLY CHOIR

The Assembly Choir has continued to meet regularly and has performed many short anthems in assembly throughout the year. Among these were 'My God, my God, look upon me' by John Blow and 'Turn back, O man' by Gustav Holst. The choir, in conjunction with the Choral Society, also gave a Carol Concert at Christmas, when 'Give the hungry man thy bread' (J. S. Bach) and several carols were performed. This Bach Cantata was performed again at the Methodist Central Hall, when the choir gave a concert in aid of 'War on Want'. The Shakespeare festival provided a somewhat rare opportunity for the choir to perform modern music, and it acquitted itself well. Settings of 'The cloud-capped towers' and 'Over hill, over dale' by Vaughan Williams were contrasted with settings of the same songs by composers of Shakespeare's own time. At Easter, the choir was privileged to sing at Mr. Turner's wedding. It is hoped that more boys will take an active interest in the work of the choir, so that an increasingly high standard may be maintained.

C. TIMMS (U VI).

THE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

Once again this year the school orchestra has flourished under the enthusiastic guidance of Mr. Moutrie. In July the brass and wind players were able to join their own separate groups, supervised by Mr. Joyner. The orchestra is also indebted to Messrs. Hampshire, Slater and Clarke, who have, at all times, been willing to swell the numbers of the string sections.

The concerts given this year include a Handel Concerto Grosso on Speech Day and a Bach Cantata, 'Give the hungry man thy bread' in conjunction with the Choral Society. The latter was performed twice to raise money for Famine Relief.

Last April the school was successful in soundly defeating orchestras from both the Convent and the High School at the Slough Arts Festival. Our entry, an arrangement of Bach's B flat minor Prelude and Fugue, was repeated at the winner's concert. We have entered again this year and are aiming for at least an equal success.

H.J.F. L VI (Leader).

THE BRASS ENSEMBLE

The Brass Section of the School Orchestra this year has at last emerged from its shell. In past years, its value seems to have been regarded by Mr. Moutrie as useful for effects, and by the rest of the orchestra as a rather noisy nuisance. The latter opinion was somewhat justified, as technique was shaky, and the group was inexperienced. Since then, under Mr. Joyner's careful direction, the Ensemble has greatly improved; technique is much sounder, and last year the group was competent enough to perform 'The Tower Music Suite' in conjunction with the woodwind players, in the Carol Concert.

'The Tower Music Suite' is an antiphonal composition by Mr. Joyner, created in the spirit of the practice during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries of players performing music in separate groups in the open air on the towers of a castle. The Suite was also performed in a concert given in February by the School Choir and Orchestra in aid of Famine Relief.

The Ensemble at present numbers nine, with the additions since last year of a horn, two trumpets and a trombone; the group is to be further augmented in the not too distant future by a euphonium, which will form useful support for the bass.

In April, the Ensemble will compete for the first time in the Slough Arts Festival, both by itself and in conjunction with the woodwind group.

Finally, the members of the Ensemble would like to thank Mr. Joyner for his enthusiastic coaching during the past year, without which, the Ensemble would cease to function.

M. PARKER (L VI).

POP CONCERT

On Wednesday, 29th April, from 4 to 5.30, about 150 boys attended the second of the 'pop-concerts' organised by the War On Want committee.

The show got off to a poor start when records from the current 'Top Twenty' charts were played, from a 'record-bar' at the front of the stage. But after only three records the audience were shouting for the first group on the programme—The Ivy Leaves.

The Ivy Leaves are a Vth Form group with Pete Daniel, vocalist; Fraser Britton, lead guitar; Mick Earl, rhythm guitar; and Charlie White on drums, who play 'Rhythm and Blues' music. Performing R and B numbers such as 'Hoochie, Coochie, Man', 'Smokestack Lightning' and 'Mona'; they went down very well, especially with the senior members of the audience. One complaint, however, was that the group's backing was too loud, and drowned the singing of vocalist Pete Daniel. Nevertheless, they were received very well, and had to do an encore.

More records now followed—this time requests—and the producer having abandoned the idea of the 'record-bar', announced the records from behind closed curtains. These records had a better reception than the 'Top-Twenty' selections—mainly because the audience was busy buying refreshments at the time, and was not really listening anyway. Then, at just after 5 o'clock, The Flowerpot Men took over the stage. The Flowerpot Men are a group made up of Vth and Vth form members—John Earl and Tony Quentin on lead guitars, Brian Street on bass guitar, Charlie White, again, on drums, and Doug Fox as vocalist. Although they also played R & B numbers, they seemed to be popular not only with senior members, but also with the rest of the audience. Unfortunately, half way through their act, Tony Quentin had trouble with his guitar amplifier, but this was soon rectified, and the act continued until the show ended at 5.30 exactly, as scheduled.

The show raised £3 10s. 0d. from programme sales alone, and this has all gone towards the War On Want campaign.

D. A. SHARPE (U VI).

BRITISH SCHOOLS' ORCHESTRAL FESTIVAL

1964

I set out on the morning of Tuesday, 31st March, equipped with violin and music, by train for Coventry where I was to spend the next eight days on the British Schools' Orchestral course. Soon after my arrival at the Grammar School near the centre of Coventry at which the course was to be held we were served with tea, followed by a first play-through of the music that we were to practice during our stay.

After the first rehearsal we were taken to the sleeping accommodation comprising two very comfortable boarding schools set in the countryside surrounding Coventry. Each day from then was spent working on the music to be performed.

The four works prescribed for our orchestra were: The Schubert 'Unfinished Symphony'; Bizet: L'Arlesienne; Malcolm Arnold: Little Suite; and a Greig Symphonic Dance. The four members of the 'Arnici' String Quartet were the resident string coaches for the orchestra. The practices during the day were taken in sections with a final full rehearsal, to consolidate the day's work, after tea. We spent much of the free time, made available during meal breaks, in small groups playing our own music in the various classrooms of the school.

After the evening rehearsals, informal concerts, dances and other social activities were organised, and, on Sunday morning, we were given the opportunity to attend morning service at Coventry Cathedral.

The final concert performance of the works studied made all the time and effort spent in preparing the music well worth while. On the last evening the conductor, Trevor Harvey, visited each bedroom to have a few words with every player, though by the time he had arrived at our room it was past 12 p.m. During the course I think that I learned a great deal of both individual and orchestral playing technique and would strongly recommend this annual course to any keen musician who has reached a standard of about grade eight.

H.J.F. (L VI).

THE WOODWIND GROUP

The Woodwind Group was formed last year from part of the woodwind section of the School Orchestra specifically to enter the chamber music class of the Slough Arts Festival. It was to everyone's delight and astonishment that our quartet, consisting of one oboe, two clarinets and a bassoon (C. Whiteley, R. Hardy, B. Hobson and R. Walker), and playing a two-minute extract from a Schubert symphony, gained eighty-three marks and came second in the class. We performed this piece again at Speech Day.

In conjunction with the Brass Group, we have twice performed the 'Tower Music Suite', first at the School Carol Concert at Christmas, and then at a special concert given in aid of the Freedom From Hunger Campaign. It was composed and conducted by Mr. Joyner, and we are going to perform it again at the forthcoming Arts Festival. Also at the Festival, we shall be performing a Bach Fugue, this time in competition with the Brass Group.

C. WHITELEY (L IV).

SCHOOL SOCIETIES

CADET NOTES

It is a continual disappointment that so few of our senior members avail themselves of the many courses offered to them by the specialized branches of the Army. The field is wide, from making omelettes with the Army Catering Corps to operating a port with the Royal Engineers, and those attending have the chance to meet other Cadets from Grammar and Public Schools in all parts of Great Britain. With this in mind it is a pleasure to record that this year Fowle and Ward gained Certificate 'T' in Mechanical and Automobile Engineering at the R.E.M.E. establishment at Bordon, Hants.

We have been grateful, also, for the invitation from Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry (T.A.), to share in their training. Lynch and Hawke attended a L.M.G. course at Oxford, and on two occasions Senior Cadets have taken part in week-end exercises on Salisbury Plain.

Sport has also provided away activities. Walker captained the Bucks. Army Cadet Force soccer team which included Twiselton, Parsons, Hodgson, Kitching and Donoghue. They won through to the final to be beaten 3-0 by Hampshire Cadets. Barrett captained the county cross-country team and was himself placed first in both the District and Command Championships.

In Certificate 'A' examinations, Douglas, Earl, Hawke, Lynch, Parker, Twiselton, Walker, Benstock, Field and Goodall gained Part II, the first seven with 'Credit'. Recently, Adnitt, Burn, Cairns, Jones, Pearce and Watterson passed Part I with 'Credit'.

Parents have again encouraged us with their support, over a hundred attending the confined open evening and inspection last July, and several journeying to Crowborough in August to visit us in camp and witness Church Parade. We want to thank, too, those who so generously sent the delicacies for the Christmas party.

This summer, camp will be near Colchester from 9th to 23rd August. We are promised more than the usual amount of shooting on classification ranges and good training areas, and the site is not very far from the sea. At the nominal fee of £1, it should attract plenty of our members. We hope they will emulate the success of those who attended last year when led by C.S.M. Loomes (now at Guy's Hospital with an Army Dental Scholarship), they won the drill, 22 shooting and football competitions.

We extend a warm welcome to this year's recruits who have recently been initiated into the mysteries of getting a uniform that will fit them—M. Bell, S. Bell, Chaplin, Coleman, Feather, Froggatt, Gooch, Harding, Harris, Jones, Kitson, Laing, Low, Napper, Peacock, Peacop, Pickett, Priede, Thwaites, Tutty and Ward. Already they promise to provide a good shooting team in the future and it is interesting to speculate which of them will be running the Company in a few years' time as its senior N.C.O.s.

In conclusion we record our special thanks to this year's senior N.C.O.s, C.S.M. Barrett, C.Q.M.S. Fowle and Sgt. Boule. Without their unflagging zeal in many hours of voluntary effort the Company could hardly have been kept going. Next year a greater challenge will face those junior N.C.O.s who come forward to take their places and to lead Slough Grammar School Company to achieve the successes appropriate to mark the fiftieth year of its existence.

THE SENATOR

Editorial Board: D. Jeacock, T. Murphy, M. Parker, M. Rouse, R. Skidmore, C. Timms.

This year has not been as successful as last year in the development of 'THE SENATOR'. The fortnightly headway which was maintained from December 1962 through until the end of July last, was not revived after September. This is to be regretted, but it was unavoidable because of the calls of academic work on the editors and the situation was aggravated by the reluctance of people to put pen to paper.

The only development in THE SENATOR that is worthy of comment is the change-over to the smaller and more manageable size. New techniques in the world of the duplicator which has faithfully run off all the copies of THE SENATOR, have enabled us to reproduce photographic material to the benefit at least of the cover.

WAR ON WANT

PROJECT 122

This school year we have directed our part of the Freedom From Hunger Campaign towards the War On Want project for Uburu Hospital in East Nigeria.

The normal way in which we raise money for the campaign is by the weekly collections which bring in on average about £7 a week. Apart from these collections money is also raised by other special efforts.

These include our annual Jumble Sale which was held this year at the Central Methodist Hall, on 25th April. Thanks to the hard work put in by about twenty members of the school during the Easter holidays, and to everyone who has contributed in however small a way, the sale raised over £73, an increase of £15 on the previous year when the sale was for Oxfam. The Committee have also organised Pop-Concerts, one last October, featuring 'The Flowerpot Men', a beat group from the school, and another last April which featured not only 'The Flowerpot Men', but also 'The Ivy Leaves'.

All the money raised by these methods goes to Uburu Hospital to help the children of that area without one single penny being deducted for expenses.

At the Hospital in Uburu, the original nursing sister, Sister Fran, has left and married and is now working in a leprosy settlement near Uburu. She has been succeeded by Sister Alicia Bandeen. The temporary confusion caused by the change-over accounts for the delay in replying to our first letter which we sent off with our first contribution of £141 at the end of the Autumn term. (At the end of the Winter term we sent off £60). To this Sister Bandeen replied expressing the Hospital's gratitude for these gifts. The last donation arrived there on the occasion of the Hospital's Jubilee anniversary which was celebrated by the opening of a new maternity wing. This new wing enlarges the Hospital to a capacity of 100 beds. Sister Bandeen stresses in her correspondence the poverty and ill-health dominant in the region of Uburu. Small clinics are set up in villages of the surrounding area in order to prevent illnesses from becoming too serious by treating the early symptoms.



At the moment there are eight babies in the motherless baby ward (where the mother has died). In helping to maintain these babies the hospital performs its most beneficial function, as otherwise these, and many more, would probably die.

Finally, we would like to thank Mr. Slater, for his help throughout the term, and also Mr. Henderson and Mr. Evans for their help with the two 'pop-concerts'.

We hope that with the continued support of the school we shall be able to help these children for a long time to come.

DEBATING SOCIETY

Chairman: Mr. F. Gibson. *Vice-Chairmen:* P. Hinchcliffe, P. Slater.
Secretary: D. Jeacock.

Committee: W. Birmingham, E. J. Lucas-Smith, Mr. Evans, Mr. Turner.

This has been one of the Society's most successful years. Support for debating has risen noticeably since the beginning of the autumn term. In addition to the traditional debate with the High School, there have been debates with Langley Grammar School, Burnham Grammar School, Windsor Grammar School, and the Convent.

The Society would like to give thanks to Mr. Gibson for his support and encouragement, to Mr. Evans and Mr. Turner, and to the many speakers, both from the platform and from the floor, who have contributed to many memorable debates.

Motions debated to Easter, 1964. (Proposers names first).

1963

Sept. This House has no confidence in Her Majesty's Government.

Carried.

Oct. This House is against capital punishment.

Biebuyck, Slater: Miss Young, A. N. Other (Langley).

Carried.

This House believes playing at soldiers is a futile occupation.

Hinchcliffe, Higginson: Earl, Barrett (for Cadets).

Lost by 1.

Nov. This House looks forward to the abolition of Grammar Schools.

Miss Hughes, Miss Munday (High School): Lucas-Smith, Higginson.

Lost by 65.

Dec. This House favours school uniform.

Pratt, Hawke: Slater, Taylor.

Lost by 5.

1964

Jan. This House believes the Christian Church cannot fulfil its function in its present divided state.

Hardy, White: Thompson, Smith.

Lost.

Feb. This House deplures having to feed ignorant natives.

Lucas-Smith, Higginson (Hampden): Slater, Kemp (Milton).

Lost.

This House would favour a united Europe.

(Windsor G.S.): Biebuyck, Earl.

Lost by 2 votes.

This House believes the United Nations has done more harm than good.

(Before the Slough U.N. Association).

Jeacock, Lucas-Smith: Miss Blatch, Miss Froggatt (High School).

Carried by 2.

This House believes all men are equal.

Pratt (Herschel), Biebuyck: Jeacock, Taylor (Gray).

Lost.

This House believes the British Nation is uncultured.

Biebuyck, Pratt: (St. Bernard's Convent).

Carried by 9.

Mar. This House is convinced that co-education is the best form of education.

Archer, Miss Kipping (Langley): Birmingham, Freestone. Lost by 13.

This House believes Royalty is outmoded.

Miss Cook, Miss Farrant (High School): Biebuyck, Earl. Lost by 7.

THE LIBRARY

Chief Librarian: M. R. Earl.

Librarians: N. C. Bathurst, G. C. Light, D. Pratt.

Assistants: A. J. A. Pell, R. Scott, R. H. Bolland, C. R. Davis,

D. L. Rogerson, C. White, D. C. Horstead, R. Hardy.

The past year has been, to say the very least, an eventful one for the Library. The September term saw the introduction of a new loans system for the VIth Form, whereby books could be withdrawn during private study periods, and students would not be confined to a rigid fortnight's use of the text they wished to study. The new system was introduced partly in an attempt to counteract the increasing 'illegal' borrowing of books from the Library, and, as far as can be judged, results have been excellent. The VIth Form has responded well to this new method, and has facilitated the first accurate book check for some time. We hope that the significant drop in the number of missing books will be continued in the future.

The Library, after several months steady supply of new books, now possesses a literature section of which it can be proud. The choice of literary texts and critical commentaries is wide and varied, covering in some degree every period in the history of English Literature. We hope to build up other sections steadily towards the same fine standard.

Even as this report is being compiled the Library itself is disappearing in accordance with the plans for building alteration and re-allotment of rooms. We sincerely hope that the turmoil around us will not impair the Library facilities, and meanwhile look forward to the move to the new library premises some time in the next school year.

Finally, the library staff would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Gibson sincerely for his patience and guidance throughout the year.

M. R. EARL.

INTER-SCHOOL GERMAN SOCIETY

In October of last year Mrs. Palme of St. Bernard's Convent, Miss Gerber of the High School and Mr. Boardall of the Grammar School proposed a series of German Evenings. The aims of the meetings were to improve students' knowledge of German customs, culture and way of life, and to give them more opportunity to hear and speak German.

The first meeting was held at St. Bernard's Convent in November. Herr Ebler (German Assistant of Slough Technical School) gave a talk on the educational system in Germany, and his address provoked many questions about school and university life.

The second meeting was held at the Grammar School in January and three films were shown, kindly loaned by the German Embassy:— 'Ern Traum in Tusche'—How dreams become paintings; 'Letzte Nachricht'—Latest news; 'Einst und Jetzt im Bauernhaus'—The Farmhouse of Today and Yesterday. The fact that the sound of these films was so good made them all the more interesting.

The third meeting was also held at the Grammar School, and Herr Kuzniarek discussed some of the ideas and background of Zuckmayer's play 'Der Hauptmann von Köpenick'. This meeting was particularly profitable since it served as a link with the school's production of the play, which was presented in mid-March.

The April meeting at St. Bernard's Convent was concerned with W. Borchert, with particular reference to 'Draussen von der Tür'.

The first meetings of the Society have been well attended, especially by the Grammar School, and the organisers hope that the further monthly meetings will arouse a similar enthusiasm.

C. A. TIMMS (U VI).

ART CLUB

Chairman: Mr. R. di Girolamo.

Secretary: A. Liszka.

Despite much time lost during the change-over from old premises to the new block, this has been a very fruitful year. The work of some members has been exhibited at the Public Library, Missenden Abbey and at Aylesbury, culminating with a display of paintings, drawings and sculpture at the Annual Conversazione. Members of the Society also painted the scenery for all the school drama productions. We would like to express our thanks to Mr. di Girolamo for his advice and assistance in solving various problems.

A. LISZKA 62 (U VI).

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chairman: P. Dando.

Vice-Chairman: I. Wright.

Treasurer: A. Quentin.

Secretary: C. Slatter.

The past school year has seen a revival of interest in the Archaeological Society and its activities have been well supported especially by the Upper School. Last summer a group of senior members of the Society spent an extremely interesting week at Fishbourne near Chichester, taking part in the excavation of a Roman Villa. This summer, a party intends to dig at an iron age fort in Uist (an island in the Shetlands).

Our programme has been quite full this year, and apart from the reports given and slides shown by the members who went to the Fishbourne dig, we have shown three films, one of particular interest on the Temples of Karnack which are likely to be partially submerged by the Aswan Dam project in Egypt. The society also organised a trip to a Roman Bath discovered in the basement of a house just off the Strand, the Temple of Mithras in London and the Archaeological section of the British Museum.

This term we have applied for affiliation with the Middle Thames Historical and Archaeological Society, which will entitle our members to attend their meetings and take part in local digs organised by that society. The Society would like to record its appreciation of the efforts of Mr. Turner, without whose guidance and advice our activities would not have been possible.

C. SLATTER (Secretary).

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

Chairman: B. Higginson.

Secretary: M. D. Freestone.

Treasurer: C. Weightman.

Although the number of meetings held this year has not been very high, the Society has had a successful year. The small number of meetings compared with previous years is entirely due to the fact that so many films have been shown in these years that there are very few films left that are of both general and scientific interest. As a result of this, the committee decided to arrange visits as the main part of the year's programme, with an introductory film show to precede each visit wherever this was possible. This policy has proved to be both interesting and successful but it has had one failing. This is that we have been unable to arrange a party in which we could include juniors. However, both the film shows and the visits have been of wide interest and everybody should have been able to find something to his own particular taste.

Once again, the displays of the chemistry and physics sections of the annual Conversazione proved to be not only impressive in appearance but also interesting in content.

Finally, we should like to thank Mr. Mansfield and Mr. Crocombe for their enthusiastic support of the society.

M. D. FREESTONE (Secretary).

CHESS CLUB

Chairman: Mr. J. Moutrie. *Treasurer:* C. Hare. *Secretary:* R. Ross.

Once again there was considerable enthusiasm for the Chess Club from junior members of the school, and due to inadequate resources and accommodation, membership was limited to seventy-five boys. The general standard of play, however, was higher than last year, and although we do not claim to have produced any 'chess prodigies', the promise shown by several junior players is very encouraging.

The School Chess Team had what must rank as its most successful season ever. After losing our first two matches, we embarked on a remarkable unbeaten run of ten successive wins. As usual, however, we were fated to lose our first match in the 'Sunday Times Schools Chess Tournament'. It is curious to note that year after year we lose in this competition to schools which we beat comfortably later in the season.

It would perhaps be unfair to mention our most successful players. All our regular players, in fact, won consistently, and four boys—R. Moss, R. Pallett, J. Grant, and H. Lunn—were chosen to play for Bucks under-18 team. Most of our losses were suffered by the erratic players of the lower junior boards.

The senior team was selected from the following: R. Moss (capt.), M. Freestone, R. Pallett, J. Grant, C. Hare, P. Firth, A. Thatcher and A. Cross; and the junior team from G. Naylor, C. Parker, H. Lunn, M. Bell, P. House, S. Hatch, A. John and C. Hughes.

We offer our sincerest thanks to Mr. Moutrie, whose help has been invaluable to us, and I should also like to thank all those Vith-formers who have given up their spare time in order to look after the club.

R. C. MOSS.

CHESS PROBLEM

BLACK



WHITE

White to play and mate in two.

Solution: Key move given on page 79.

THE PRINTING CLUB

Secretary: G. P. Moore.

For the past six years the Printing Club's reports in 'The Swan' has contained the following statement: 'The Club has had another very successful year'. I will refrain from saying it this time, although its validity cannot be denied.

The work tackled this year has been of a more ambitious nature and more voluminous. The fact that we do work for local shopkeepers and light-industry indicates the standard of our printing. This standard has only been maintained by the unlimited enthusiasm of the Club's fifteen regular members. Every one of these really pulls his weight and I would like to thank them all. Credit is due especially to Hugh Burden for the large amount of extra work he has willingly put in. Thanks go also to Mr. Richards for his advice and supervision.

Finally, I would like to draw the attention of the school and staff to the services which we offer. We can print such things as letterheads, dance tickets, business cards, handbills, wedding stationery and many other items at very attractive prices—prices, in fact, that no other local firm can rival. We shall be glad to accept any orders and perform them as promptly as possible.

G.P.M.

ANGLING SOCIETY

Chairman: Mr. Evans.

Secretary: Keith Elliott.

Treasurer: Richard Smith.

The past year has seen several changes in the Angling Society, both internally and in future policy. It is now well-established with a reasonable following of keen anglers: quite a change from just three years ago, when the Society was revived with just three members!

The season ended with the prizes and trophies well distributed. K. Elliott won the medal for the points competition, with P. Conlon second and A. Moore and P. Elliott—who is still only in the first form—equal third. For the second time R. Smith of Form IV won the specimen fish trophy—this year with a chub of 3-4-0—nearly two feet long. E. Leach was second, and K. Elliott third. The inter-house competition was won by Milton, with Grry second. Late in the season, knockout competitions were organised, the singles being won by K. Elliott, with R. Talbot as runner-up, and the doubles by R. Smith again—although without a partner in the final.

In November, Peter Stone, a regular contributor to national fishing magazines, visited the school and gave a very interesting talk on ledgering. Mr. Evans attended this talk, and was so interested that the following week saw him fishing for the first time. We now have a very keen chairman, whom I would like to thank for his assistance through the season.

Finally, it is hoped that under the sponsorship of 'Angling Times' the Junior League which, besides ourselves, includes schools from Watford, Hounslow, Reading and High Wycombe, will function smoothly and be well supported.

K. ELLIOTT U VI (Secretary).

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Chairman: G. Watson.

Secretary: D. Knight.

Treasurer: J. Trigg.

Chemists: P. Dando, S. Mrowka.

The highlight of the Society's activities this year was a trip to the Kodak factory at Harrow, where twenty members were shown how films and photographic paper are manufactured. In a photographic competition held with Langley last Summer Term, the school was narrowly beaten. Other activities included taking passport photographs for boys in school parties travelling abroad and a pictorial demonstration of developing and enlarging a film at the annual Conversation.

We thank Mr. Crocombe for his willing help at all times and Dr. Colombo for the use of the darkroom.

D. KNIGHT.

THE RHYTHM AND BLUES CLUB

Chairman: D. Fox.

Secretary: M. Bailey.

Vice-Chairman: P. Daniel.

Treasurer: C. Bass.

Committee: C. Pryce, C. Slatter, F. Britton.

This was the first year of the Club; the reason for this is not hard to find. It is the first time that R. & B. has enjoyed large-scale popularity in this country.

Our regular Monday meetings are among the best attended of any school society. The Club draws members from the Vth and VIth Forms. Many of our members have travelled to live performances by visiting American performers.

The most encouraging sign of the enthusiasm within the Club has been the formation of two groups, the Ivy Leaves (Peter Daniel, Fraser Britton, Michael Earl) and the Flower-Pot Men (Douglas Fox, John Earl, Antony Quentin, Brian Street and Charlie White); who have given performances in front of the school, more recently in support of the War on Want campaign.

We must thank Mr. Boardall for initially agreeing to support our Club while others probably just laughed at us, and we hope we have justified his faith in us.

M. BAILEY (U VI).

JUNIOR DEBATING SOCIETY

Chairmen: I. Cartwright, A. Morton, D. Kemp.

Sponsor: Mr. D. A. Turner.

Secretary: G. Cartwright.

Treasurer: A. Morton.

The Society, although it was formed only this year, has so far met with great support from members of the Junior School. Its aim is to satisfy the need of the junior to express his views on current topics. At the time of writing, only two debates have been held, both well attended, the result of one, when the House upheld the 11+, making the front page of the 'Slough Observer'! We are hoping to provide a more ambitious programme for our many members next year. Finally, our thanks are due to Messrs. Turner and Evans, for their indispensable help.

I.C. and A.M.

S.C.M.

Leaders: E. Lucas-Smith, W. Birmingham, F. Freestone.

This year has unfortunately not been a very progressive one. However, Christians throughout the school have been working for Christ in their own ways.

As usual, this year we sent a party to the S.C.M.S. conference at the Royal Grammar School at High Wycombe. Indeed, we sent a record number of 50 to it. This year's subject was the new interpretation of religion, put forward by the Bishop of Woolwich in his book, 'Honest to God'. Although some of those attending were placed in dull groups, most of them considered the day well spent. To many people, the 'new religion' appears to be a less hypocritical form of the old.

We had fortnightly meetings during the Autumn Term. Besides a film, we had a series on man's duty towards God and man's duty towards his fellow men. A more controversial subject was Rev. G. Fothergill's talk on 'The Observance of the Lord's Day'. Very few members consider Sunday papers or using buses on Sundays wrong.

We would like to thank Mr. Slater for his continued interest and help, without which Christians in the school would be greatly at a loss. Finally may I make an appeal for all Christians to support the S.C.M. in the future.

GEOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chairman: G. Light. *Treasurer:* P. Daniel. *Secretary:* R. Barrett.
The Society has had another very successful year. Commencing in the Autumn Term a film has been shown each month, on subjects as diverse as S.E. Asia, Kuwait and the Dutch Polders.

In the Spring Term we once again mounted a successful exhibition of fieldwork in the Annual Conversazione, introducing in addition a display of fossils and minerals. Among the latter were several Russian ones, which were brought back by the party which visited the U.S.S.R. from school during Easter 1963.

At the time of writing (late April) the final arrangements were being made for a coach-trip to Cheddar Gorge, to see the spectacular results of the solubility of limestone in carbonic acid.

During the remainder of the Summer Term it is hoped to show some more films, and also to have one or two talks on various geographical topics.

Finally, the Society would like to thank Mr. Portus and Mr. Evans for all the co-operation and help that they have given throughout the year.

G. LIGHT.

AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

Chairman: P. Webber. *Treasurer:* D. Boul. *Secretary:* G. Light.

Reformed last September, the Society began the year with a film-show, which, unfortunately, was very badly attended. Such an apathetic approach, which is not only limited to this Society, severely restricts the activities of the group, as without plentiful support there is very little that can be undertaken. If all members, and interested non-members, were to realise that the Society exists for their benefit, then a more ambitious programme could be planned.

Despite this, a coach has been booked to take a party to the Biggin Hill International Air Fair in early May, but here again the task of finding people to go was both lengthy and difficult, and not made easier by a number of cancelled bookings.

Whether anything can be done during the rest of the year is not yet known, but if the apathy continues, there would seem to be few grounds for the Society's continued existence.

In conclusion, our thanks go to Mr. Blagrove, who has generously given us his support throughout the year.

G. LIGHT.

MUSIC SOCIETY

Chairman: C. A. Timms.
Secretary: K. L. Rowe.

Treasurer: R. Ferris.
Patron: The Headmaster.

This year has been one of quiet continuous development in the Society, and interest in music, especially on the part of the Upper School, has become more apparent. A most successful trip was organised to the Bach Festival in Oxford last year and another visit is proposed for this year along with a visit to Sadlers Wells Theatre to see Bizet's 'Carmen'. Last term a series of recorded lunchtime concerts was presented which proved to be surprisingly successful.

We are fortunate to live in a county which enthusiastically encourages active participation in musical activities and many of our members attended courses in music organised by the county authorities. One aim of such

courses is to promote interest in modern compositions, a facet of musical experience which few members of the school apparently have any desire to undergo. The general feeling in the school is that a classical piece is of necessity good music and that any modern work should be approached with suspicion and something approaching cynicism. This state of affairs should not exist. No one can achieve a well-balanced view of music as a whole until he has observed equally critically the compositions of every era.

It has been the policy of our Society to try to present to our members as representative a selection as possible of the musical genres and the officers of the Society trust that their efforts have done something to divert the members from that depressing narrow-mindedness which it is all too easy to adopt in one's views of music.

K. L. ROWE (Secretary).

THE FILM AND THEATRE SOCIETY

Patron: Mr. E. Dutton.
Hon. Treasurer: P. Slater.

Hon. Secretary: H. Smith.
Technician-Chairman: M. Ward.
Vice-Chairman: I. Singleton.

This year the Society has decided against a humorous report. We have, after all, many serious things to say. Firstly (to misquote the immortal bard ad nauseam), there is something decidedly rotten in the state of this Society's finances. As Mr. Micawber (from the novel D.C. by C.D.) once said: annual income 20 shillings, annual expenditure 20 shillings and sixpence, result—yet another school society bites the dust. We deny the pernicious rumour that Society officers have been pawned to pay off debts. (Whatever happened to our Hon. Vice-Chairman? Confidentially, I believe he answered the irresistible call of the outside world:—money).

Nevertheless, members have been treated to various gems of the silver screen, for which they have shown their due appreciation by making very appropriate gestures to the officers.

There has also been a disastrous theatre visit and we are hoping to have another.

H.M.S.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Chairman: P. Bradley. *Treasurer:* B. Pickering. *Secretary:* D. Solomon.
As usual the N.H.S. was noticeable for its extremely active and varied meetings. The number of meetings beat the all-time record of 3. In fact, two meetings were held, one in the evening on fish preservation, and one dinner break film show. Both meetings were well attended, the second especially so—over fifteen members attended! Another record broken, I feel, although the activities do not show this.

The annual visit to Dale and the resultant Conversazione were, as usual, a success. Adaptation, the main theme of the display, was needed by the VIth Form group as much as by the seashore life. A persistent source of irritation at Dale was only overcome by zealous, and unselfish activity.

An earnest plea must be made to future members of the Society. Unless preservatory and conservatory measures are taken, by greater support and activity, the Society will regrettably follow that same irreversible path taken by its wild life protégés, the Great Auk, the Dodo and the Sabre-toothed Tiger—the path to extinction.

JAZZ CLUB

President: Mr. J. S. Boardall.

Treasurer: M. Baker.

Chairman: D. Garner.

Secretary: C. Bawden.

Regular meetings have been held on Thursdays in either the Lecture Room or the History Room. These meetings have been supported consistently by a small number of informed devotees who enjoyed and appreciated good jazz.

The year's programme has been varied and has included the work of exponents of modern, traditional and mainstream jazz. The trend, however, is a moving away from the music of Bilk and Ball, which has been so popular in recent years.

C. BAWDEN.

MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

Chairman: Mr. J. W. Boggis.

Now in its second year, the Model Railway Club has been able to purchase more equipment and rolling stock. Track laying has continued from last year, although support from 1st Form has not been encouraging, and a semi-permanent layout is under construction.

A showing of British Transport films and colour slides in October was well supported. The Club is hoping to increase its stock and membership during next year, and to introduce special construction and operating groups at its meetings.

METALWORK GUILD

Chairman: B. H. Pickering.

Secretary: R. H. Fountain.

Treasurer: C. J. Ramsdale.

The Metalwork Guild is in its second year and has grown into a flourishing and popular Society.

On Tuesday evenings during the term, members of the Guild work on projects of their own choice, some of which were shown at this year's *Conversazione*. For the excellent display in this year's *Conversazione* the Guild is indebted to K. Fraser and M. Cameron.

It is hoped that in the near future several films can be obtained which will be of interest to all members of the Guild.

Finally, we should like to express our thanks to Mr. Shield for his invaluable guidance and advice.

R. H. FOUNTAIN.

THE STAMP CLUB

Chairman: D. Frankl.

Secretary: J. A. Black.

Sponsor: Mr. Blagrove.

The Stamp Club was formed in October, 1962, and now has a membership of about thirty. We meet during Friday lunch hour in Room C, showing albums and swapping stamps. Some weeks we have a competition to see who can produce the neatest set of stamps arranged on a sheet of paper.

Membership (6d per year) is not limited to any particular form, but most of our members are from forms I-IV.

J.A.B.



F. Taylor

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

LAKE DISTRICT 1964

Half-a-dozen bodies stand poised half naked, boots and anoraks clutched in sweaty hands; the coach comes to a stop and the bodies fight to be first out. Shirts flying, they run sock-footed across the stoney driveway to the house and within a further twenty seconds are all totally naked enjoying the luxury of a bath or shower. Minutes later more bodies are still easing themselves with creaking joints, aching muscles and drawn haggard faces painfully and wearily out of the coach; the end of a typical Lake District day.

It had been decided that because of the brevity of the visit (1st April/8th April), the usual rest day visits to Hadrian's Wall and the shipyards at Barrow in Furness would have to be scrapped and instead we would walk every day. Much to our pleasure (or perhaps for some of the less energetic members of the party, displeasure), we were blessed with six, uninterrupted days of fine weather, something which Mr. Portus and Mr. Crocombe, the seasoned campaigners had never experienced before. This meant that all six days could be utilised to their fullest extent.

The first day was an 'Easy Day' to the summit of Blencathra, which was still snow covered, and for some a further trip over Latrigg. Despite a persistent cry of 'I can't go on!' from one member of the party all eventually managed to reach the top, although the few intrepid mountaineers who went via Sharp Edge appeared to have been lost for a while. On the descent two feet from the body of one J.O. found themselves placed rather indelicately in a stream; and a voice from that same body was heard to utter the dreadful oath . . . 'Socks'!

On the second day this oath increased in power to . . . 'Bed Socks', as John O. placed his feet this time in a bog as we climbed Causeway Pike, and walked along Castlerigg Fell and High Seat before descending into the very pretty village of Watendlath, where the poet Wordsworth is reputed to have lived, and its equally pretty lake. From there we walked along the Pony Track to the enormous Bowder Stone which is balanced on so narrow a keel that at one point two people can shake hands through a hole.

The oath increased to its maximum power . . . 'Sweaty Bed Socks', as on the third day's walk John Overton soaked his feet yet again, this time in a stream on the walk from Causey Pike to Bel Crag. Then while some with Geological Hammers rampant went to investigate a Lead Mine, the others bravely tackled the heights of Grisedale Pike. The view was fantastic; to the West we could see Workington and its chimneys on the coast and across the sea to both the Isle of Man and Scotland on the other side of the Solway Firth. All the major ranges of the Lake District could be distinguished, and in fact to the North East could be seen some of the Pennines.

On the fourth day, with our feet now worked in, we tackled the first of 'The Big Uns', Great Gable. While most of the party tackled the long, killer stretch up Aarons Slack to Windy Gap and then to the top, two gentlemen who should remain nameless, Mr. Willis and Mr. Crocombe, 'Got Lost' attempting another route; still, they gave the others ample time to absorb the views from the top of Gable and to gasp in awe at the sight of the Scafell range.

The worst weather we experienced was at lunchtime on the fifth day at the top of Helvellyn when we ate under cloud cover. This cloud persisted when a smallish group decided to go on a taxing, precarious jaunt, down Swirral Edge and up Striding Edge, both of which had considerable snow and slippery ice still on them. The final descent to Thirlspot was made in strong, warm sunshine.

On the final day we made the twelve mile trek from Seathwaite to the top of the highest mountain in England, Scafell Pike and down again. On this day we witnessed the historic treble as A. Alderman achieved the treble: first to the top; first to the bottom and first to get seconds at the evening meal.

These were all days of hard work and walking, but they did not lack their humorous moments, not least of which was the ribaldry which greeted Garner's shorts, although he had the last laugh, but few would deny that it was enjoyable. The facilities we enjoyed were more than good; Mr. Mac Cambridge's County Youth Hostel was comfortable and convenient; the good planning and excellent and informative leadership of Mr. Portus was appreciated by all, especially the non-geographers. We are all grateful, too, to our driver Mac, who although petrifying some of his passengers with displays of driving dexterity was always in the right place at the right time to save us any unnecessary walking.

We left the Lakes with a new zest for life and optimistic talk of doing Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon in 24 hours; with the inevitable taste for Kendal Mint Cake; and with lingering, or should I say haunting, memories of Duvana.

E. P. LUCAS-SMITH (U VI).

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES CLUB

President: Dr. Long. Chairman: Mr. Myatt. Secretary: B. Thorp.
The Outdoor Activities Club can now claim to be one of the most popular and most active of the school's societies.

This is especially encouraging as its activities are completely outside the normal curriculum and demand a great deal of time, energy and hard work. All of the participants in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme have now gained their first awards, mostly Bronze, while the older ones have passed the Silver stage. These are now continuing to Silver and Gold standards. The organisers would, however, like to see more IVth and Vth formers coming forward to start the scheme.

Besides the camping weekend under the auspices of the Award scheme, senior members of the Society have made use of the school's camping equipment for independent canoeing trips and walking tours. Also, Mr. Myatt supervised a week canoeing and camping in the Wye Valley during the summer holidays: a week sailing at Whitsun; and a mountaineering course at Plas-y-Brenin at Easter. Separate reports of their excursions can be seen in *The Swan*.

The Club repeated last year's success at the school's annual Conversazione. This year we risked the weather and gave a floodlit demonstration in the open air, cooking a four-course meal on a camp-site, with canoes and a fully-rigged dinghy in the background.

The Society as a whole would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Long, who secured the grant which enabled us to buy the camping equipment, and who supported us in all our ventures. Also we must thank Mr. Myatt, who has done so much more than is expected of him as Games master. Without his keenness and backing neither the Award Scheme nor any of the excursions would have been possible.

B. THORP (U VI).

A WEEK ON ROCKS AND WATER

7.30 a.m. on Sunday, 28th March, found two boys of Burnham Grammar School and nine boys of the Vth and VIth Forms of this school waiting in Lascelles Road for a coach.

They waited, and they waited, and they waited, but eventually a coach with the rest of the party, seven more boys from Burnham arrived, and at 9 a.m. all 18 set off en route for Capel Curig and a course of mountain activities in Snowdonia.

After two short stops in Evesham and Llangollen we arrived at Plas-y-Brenin (The King's House)—the Snowdonia National Recreation Centre. This is a large building, an ex-hotel, built on the slopes just above the Llynau Mymbyr with a fine view of the Snowdon horseshoe in the background. Here we met Mr. Myatt who had made his own way, and after tea we were welcomed to the centre and met the rest of the course, some twenty members of Barry Training College.

The next six days were spent rock climbing, canoeing, mountain camping, but most of all walking.

On one morning and one afternoon we were taught the rudiments of the Classic system of rock-climbing and practised, with more or less success, belaying, chimneying and abseiling. This last is that feat of 'standing' horizontally against a cliff, supported by a single rope, and 'walking' backwards down the face in apparent defiance of the laws of gravity.

The other halves of these two days were spent on the waters of the Llynau Mymbyr learning how to canoe properly. During this time five of our number managed to fall in and learnt to their cost that the water in mountain lakes is very cold indeed. On one occasion we formed a 'raft' in the middle of the lake and were aghast to hear the instructor tell the two outside men to exchange canoes by walking across the raft. This tricky manoeuvre was, however, accomplished without accident, to the relief of all.

On the Tuesday morning we split into twos and threes and were issued with tents, rucksacks, sleeping bags and sundry other items of camping equipment. After lunch we were taken by truck into the mountains south of Snowdon and from there we tramped further in and set up camp near Llyn Llgi. The rest of the day was spent in practising climbing techniques and the following morning we covered about 8 miles, scrambling up and down and taking in the summit of Cnicht (2,265 ft.). After lunch we struck camp and walked to another pick-up spot from where we were taken back to Plas-y-Brenin.

On this expedition we were led by a character called Bill, who always wore two very old pairs of trousers sewn together and an old red jumper full of holes.

Friday's expedition took us, in about two hours, from Pen-y-Pass, via the P.Y.G. track and the Zig-Zags to the summit of Snowdon (3,561 ft.). It was fairly cold up there and all the streams and waterfalls had frozen solid. A fierce wind howled across the top, bearing with it particles of ice which stung the face. We decided that it was much too windy to stop there so we descended a couple of hundred feet and lunched there.

We continued round the horseshoe to the summit of y Llewidd (2,947 ft.) and back by the shores of Llyn Llyelw to Pen-y-Pass.

Most evenings were taken up with lectures and films after which most of us retired to the Students Lounge.

On the last evening there was a social at which each group of nine or ten was expected to put on something special. For the Welsh girls this was easy; they just sang, in Welsh of course, but we felt that our hoarse voices would not be quite good enough so we did a sketch.

The following morning we left for Slough, sore of foot but with happy memories of mountains, water, fresh air and Rlan.

R. FOWLE (U VI).



C. Ramsdale and R. Scott on Harrison's Rocks, Capel Curig.

RIVER WYE CANOE/CAMPING EXPEDITION

The 1963 holiday on the River Wye began on 21st August. We arrived at Hampton Bishop in a furniture van at about 3.30 p.m., and tents were soon pitched, including those of members of the party who were ignorant of camping ways. Also, canoes were tested on the river, without mishap. That night, heavy breathing and grunting were heard about the camp—the herd of cows from the nearby field had come to investigate the new arrivals!

The following morning we were up for an early start but were delayed by the late arrival of our guide. The morning's canoeing was quite pleasant; the lunch stop saw the first taste of P.G.L. sandwich fillings; and the tea was brewed to perfection by Mr. Myatt in the sandwich tin—after the sandwiches had been taken out! We stopped in the evening for camp at Carey, which was made unpleasant by the presence of a large wasps' nest (which was however, soon burnt out), and a three-quarter mile walk for water. Before dinner some of us walked the two miles to the nearest shops, only to find they were closed. Bed was preceded by an exciting football match in which the two oldest members of the party showed their prowess.

Friday morning saw the handing out of plasters to those with sore hands. There was a short stop at Hoorwithy for shopping on the way to our next camp—Backney Viaduct. Ross could be seen from here, so most of the party decided to go in to town for dinner. The three miles in to Ross proved to be further than most of us thought! Supper was late that night.

On Saturday morning we were away at 9.15. We stopped on our journey to take the annual look at Goodrich Castle. The lunch-stop was at Lower Lydbrook, where most of us ran aground in shallows following insufficient directions from our guide. All the party were looking forward to tackling the famous Yat rapids just before the next camp site at Symonds Yat. However, it proved to be disappointing, for excessive rain had swollen the rapids.

On arriving at the camp site the weary canoeers were greeted with hot coffee. Colin Pryce and Pete Daniel especially, needed it following their ducking by capsizing their canoe on arrival. Daniel's morale was restored later, he managed to poach quite a large fish. We all slept well after our long nineteen-mile struggle from Ross.

Sunday was our rest day and a bonfire and barbecue were planned. However, it poured with rain practically all day and they were called off. Most of the party spent the day visiting Yat Rock and the excellent restaurant in the village where chicken and chips and salmon were the specialities.

Monday was spent canoeing the final stretch to Llandogo. The lunch stop was at Monmouth, which was reached in record time from Symond's Yat, despite 3 ft. waves and a strong wind. From Llandogo the canoes and kit were transported back up to Hampton Bishop. The party had to make their own way back and there were many successful hitch-hikers, but three sedate members of the party took public transport—no initiative!

When we arrived at Hampton Bishop we found that those cows we met on the first night had eaten the soup, bread and biscuits!

Tuesday morning was bright and Mr. Myatt and Mr. Evans and some of the party decided to canoe *upstream*, of all things, to Hereford. The more weary of us, hitch-hiked into the town and spent the day sight-seeing. In the evening we were all too weary after our week's canoeing for a 'sing-song' so we went to bed early.

Wednesday, our day of return, turned out to be the most brilliant of the whole week. A late breakfast was followed by leisurely packing and clearing-up. The furniture van arrived at about 1.30 p.m., and we were loaded and away by 2.15. The journey was broken for food at 4 p.m., and school was eventually reached at 6 o'clock.

The whole of the party—Colin Pryce, Peter Daniel, Barry Thorp, Brian Hynam, Colin Timms, Clive Timms, John Bostock, Martin Baker, Steven

Bradley, John Hamilton, Robert Lang and Tony Pell thoroughly enjoyed themselves, despite the lack of sunshine and would like to thank Mr. Myatt and Mr. Evans once again for organizing this trip.

There were some nominal awards for the week: champion letter-writer, John Bostock; champion in fashions, Brian Hynam (although his pipe wasn't always popular); champion cook, Mr. Evans; special mention must be made of his custard and cocoa (we certainly slept well after his suppers!). Finally, the wooden spoon must be awarded to Barry Thorp for his *three-and-a-half* ladles of tea in the pot: Famous last words—'It was lovely—a good strong brew'.

C. PRYCE (U VI).

BOTLEY SAILING COURSE, 1963

A party of boys and Mr. Myatt spent a very enjoyable Whitsun weekend at the Y.M.C.A. Sailing Centre, Botley, Hants. Unfortunately the weather was not kind: although the sun shone throughout, for two days it was not possible to sail because of high winds, and one day we were becalmed! We spent our unexpected spare time swimming in the Southampton Olympic Pool; playing football, basket-ball, table-tennis; 'messing about' on 'the barge'; and on one occasion went for a long walk!

We did, however, spend a day on 'rigging' and 'knots'; another sailing in the Hamble Estuary and one on Southampton Water . . . 'Excellent stuff'.

TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT

It is some years now since H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh founded the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme for boys and girls. By now many millions of people are loosely aware of the assets and enjoyment to be obtained by competing for these awards but, to many, it still appears a novelty.

In the past year or two the school Outdoor Activities Club have offered opportunities for participating in the scheme and a number of us have been very grateful to be able to do the series of tests specially designed to broaden one's outlook in a way that can only be of great benefit later in life.

There are three awards to be competed for; the bronze, silver and gold stages, and each one of these entails qualification in four separate categories. The first of these consists of public service which covers such subjects as first aid, lifesaving, fire fighting etc. In our particular courses at school, most have opted to learn first aid which is fairly elementary but so vital to know. Mr. Evans from the local St. John's brigade was very kind in coming along to the school every week and teaching us how to cope with many of the everyday accidents that occur. Despite the serious nature of this instruction it proved to be very enjoyable, especially when it came to wrapping one's friends from head to toe in numerous triangular bandages.

The second category concerns physical fitness. To qualify in this, one has to attain certain standards which are very similar to those which all the school attempt in preparation for Sports Day. Choice of event is very open and only three standards are required. Those who romp the physical section might require more effort on the third category which consists of studying a special project for a period of a few months. To some, this section appears as nothing but a chore, but the project is completely the choice of the individual and can be anything in the way of hobbies or sport. Some of the projects already undertaken, for example, include football refereeing, gardening, marksmanship, horsemanship, canoeing and chess.

The final section consists of a short camping expedition which covers a definite mileage and consists of one or two nights camping depending upon the award level. Going by the expedition in which I participated this usually proves to be the highlight of the whole scheme. Four of us undertook the silver stage expedition which was carried out in the White Horse Vale area of Berkshire; much of it along the Ridge Way—an ancient pathway known to many Slough Grammar School boys as a 'Travel Day' destination. Tramping around these paths and camping out in tents and barns was a wonderful experience despite the snowy weather. Spirits were always high and appetites well satisfied.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is certainly something worth competing for. In the eyes of many who know little about what the award entails it is only for those 'keen types', but this is completely wrong. One doesn't need to be a champion athlete or anything of the kind. All that is required is a little willpower and the ability to enjoy partaking in such events with one's own friends. This is nothing very difficult and if you still need convincing just try asking those who have completed the award. The Outdoor Activities Club is only too pleased to accommodate you.

A. PELL (L VI).

TRIP TO PARIS AND LOIRE VALLEY: EASTER 1964

Early one morning during the Easter holidays a party of 35 pupils, under the leadership of Messrs. Smith, Boardall and Joyner, set off by coach on the first stage of what proved to be a highly successful trip to France. For many of us this was our first visit and the prospect of a week abroad stimulated everyone, putting us all in good spirits for the voyage ahead.

We arrived on French soil at 3 o'clock and immediately took our seats, along with other school parties, on the train bound for Paris. For the most part the countryside near the coast was dull and uninspiring—a complete contrast to the lush and verdant scenery found further inland.

On arrival at Gare St. Lazare, a coach was waiting to take us through the crowded Parisian streets, already lit-up and jostling with life, to our hotel.

During our stay in Paris we frequented a restaurant—'Le Petit Quinquin'—for our main meals. On the whole the French food was a more natural and unrefined type than the English usually eat. During the course of the meal we were offered different varieties of cheeses and there was always plenty of salad, dressed with olive oil, to go with it. At the end of the meal, fresh fruit was served for those who wanted it. The French also eat a very light breakfast consisting simply of rolls and coffee—the reason for this being that they have a large lunch and evening meal later on.

On our first day in Paris we spent the morning visiting the well-known Sacré Coeur at Montmartre. The name of the latter is derived from 'Le Mont des Martyrs' after the execution there of three men, later dubbed saints. Legend has it that after being beheaded, one of them—St. Denis—actually gathered up his bloody head and, carrying it to a nearby fountain, carefully bathed it before proceeding on his way.

Montmartre itself, with its narrow, cobbled streets twisting and sloping in all directions and its numerous street artists and picturesque buildings was quite typical of what many of us imagined a small, French town to look like.

In the afternoon we boarded the Metro for the first time. This is much the same as our own underground except that there is a fixed price for



Château de Chenonceaux.

travel and for about 7d. one can either go just as far as the next station or right across Paris.

We left the Metro at Etoile which brought us directly opposite the Arc de Triomphe. The latter is surrounded by a very busy main road—part of the Champs Elysées—and in order to reach it one has to go in a tunnel underneath the road. From there we continued down the Champs Elysées itself, which is twice as wide as the average main road and bordered with trees on both sides. The gardens of the Tuileries, past the Place de la Concorde, afforded us an opportunity to photograph the numerous, striking statues and picturesque fountains adorning the park.

By now, quite footsore, we found ourselves on the bank of the Seine, viewing with interest the 'bouquinistes' which have become almost symbolic of Paris and the Seine.

On Friday, after spending a wet and miserable Thursday seeing Fontainebleau, we paid a visit to the 'Jeu de Paume', an art gallery situated in the gardens of the 'Tuileries', containing a magnificent collection of French Impressionist paintings.

We could not leave Paris without seeing the Eiffel Tower, and so on our last afternoon we went to see this massive structure, the top of which seems to disappear into the clouds. Gradually over the years it has become a greater attraction to tourists and been used increasingly for radio communications. On a clear day, it is possible to see the layout of Paris from its top.

In the evening, those of us in the hotel were surprised and pleased to receive a visit from Mr. Turner and his wife who were honeymooning in Paris.

On Saturday we left for Tours, about 140 miles away, where we were to spend the remainder of our only too brief visit. The countryside around here was far pleasanter and the food seemed much more deliciously French.

The shop-keepers and café proprietors, especially in Tours, were very polite towards us and often went out of their way to help us. This was rather a contrast to the average Englishman's feelings towards foreigners.

Our last two days were spent visiting châteaux in and around Tours. The weather was rather poor however, and consequently the gardens of the châteaux looked far less attractive than one might have hoped. Of the châteaux, Charonceaux was an excellently preserved example. We were also fortunate enough to visit a wine-cellar where thousands of bottles of wine were kept over a period of years until they finally matured.

On the whole, Tours was more enjoyable than Paris. Although there was a busy and modern shopping-centre in Tours the rest of the town was a complete contrast with narrow cobbled streets shaded by tall, ominous buildings and far less foreigners than we found in Paris.

We regret that, owing to the illness of Mr. Collin, he and Mrs. Collin were unable, at the last moment, to accompany us. We would like to thank Mr. Boardall for taking his place at short notice and Messrs. Smith and Joyner for having taken such trouble to make this an enjoyable holiday.

P. GRIFFITHS, A. THATCHER,
S. CLEAVER (U VI).

HOUSE NOTES

GRAY HOUSE

In the past year Gray House has achieved distinction in all aspects of school life. The House Captain, P. Hinchcliffe, was also Head Boy, and D. Garner and S. Haisz were both deputies. Last year, six members of the House went direct to university, and this year eight more already have definite places, including P. Hinchcliffe, D. Garner and I. Singleton, who are going to Cambridge, and D. Jeacock who is going to Oxford.

Members of the House were also successful in games, for Gray won the Cross-Country Championship for the fourth consecutive year. R. Barrett and M. Rouse must both be complimented, the one for winning the Southern Command A.C.F. Championship, and the other for being chosen to represent Bucks at the National Championship. The same two runners represented their county at the National Schools Athletics meeting last summer.

In soccer, D. Fox was captain of the successful 1st XI and M. Bell was his deputy, while J. Murray captained the 2nd XI. M. Bell played for the F.A. Colts' team and captained the County Grammar Schools' team, of which D. Fox was a member.

B. Kelley again distinguished himself as captain of the Tennis Six. When partnered by Colin Timms, he won the Ramsden Cup at Wimbledon in the National Schools' Tournament last July.

G. Watson brought honour to himself and his House by being the first member of the school to gain the gold medal of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. It is hoped that other boys, now at intermediate stages of the scheme will reach a similar standard.

The House has also been well represented in other school activities. Special mention should go to M. Earl, who is the Chief Librarian, and to A. Liszka, who built and painted much of the scenery for the French and German plays, in which P. Hinchcliffe and D. Garner played the respective leading rôles with considerable skill.

The success of the House is due largely to the untiring efforts of Dr. K. Colanbo, the Senior House Master, and his colleagues, to whom we extend our thanks. Success in the Vth Form is only gained by constant practice and effort, both in study and sport throughout the earlier years of school life, and we urge all members of the House to make that necessary effort, so that the high standard may be maintained.

A.T. and C.T.

HAMPDEN HOUSE

Senior House Master: Mr. R. J. Vivash.

House Captain: Brian Higginson. *Vice-Captain:* Edward Lucas-Smith.

Football and Cricket: Michael Holder.

Athletics and Cross Country: Colin Ramsdale.

This has been a mixed year for the House. On the academic side we sent several boys up to university. Last year's Head Boy, Colin Timms, won a Greenwood Scholarship in Music to Cambridge; M. Bowren, G. Bull, M. Clarke, N. Taneja and S. Kochanowski to London University; K. Hickson and R. Smith to Birmingham; C. Hughes and A. Gooch to Hull. We were all sad to hear that C. Blount was unable to take his place because of a serious industrial accident but we hope that he will soon recover. We also give our good wishes to R. Cobbett, J. Humphries and R. Kingston as they start their new careers.

This year we also heard that B. Higginson our House Captain, who has recently been appointed, is to read Chemistry at Oxford, and that M. Taylor has been awarded a scholarship in Mathematics at Leicester University.

Members of the House were well represented in school sports' teams; M. Holder, K. Messenger, N. Campbell, D. Hannigan, R. Grantham, G. Heister, and G. Olson played in the first and second football XIs; M. Boweren, G. Bull, M. Holder, P. Smith, G. Walker, B. Higginson, E. Lucas-Smith, A. Pell and B. Aherne, cricket; B. Walker, L. Rowe, B. Aherne, A. Pell and N. Bathurst, hockey; B. Higginson captained the Rugby XV in which P. Smith, E. Lucas-Smith, P. Roberts, D. Faulks and N. Flynn also played; C. Ramsdale was our sole representative in the Cross Country Team.

Although we won Sports Day last summer, since then we have been less successful. Although very narrowly defeated in the Cross Country we made a very poor showing in the football. Our hopes for this summer are not as high as they were last year with a very weak group of under twenties. We were narrowly defeated in the Senator Inter-House General Knowledge Contest and in the Inter-House Debating Competition. Members of the House have been well represented in School Drama, Inter-School Debates and other school activities. Although we cannot always win everything and be always at the top, we are sure that members of Hampden House always try their hardest and can never be said to shirk any responsibilities to House or School.

HERSCHEL HOUSE

Senior House Master: Mr. J. Wharmby.

House Captain: M. Holloway.

Football Captain: J. Trigg.

Cricket Captain: D. Godfrey.

Vice-Captain: J. Trigg.

Athletics Captain: M. Holloway.

Tennis Captain: P. Daniel.

This year, if not one of brilliance, was certainly a period of sustained success for Herschel House. In the field of athletics we came second on Sports Day, and sent three of our members, A. Johnson, M. Holloway and I. Taylor to the All-England Schools' Sports. P. Griffiths was again awarded

the Swimming Championship Challenge Cup, and M. Holloway the Gymnastics Cup, while D. Godfrey represented the county at football, and was also selected for the F.A. Colts' Eleven.

Academically we have also done well. John Le Page, last year's House Captain, has gone to Wadham College, Oxford, and Clifford Evans, last year's Vice-Captain, has gone to King's College, London. Other members who went up to university last year include D. Morris and M. Solomon (Bristol), D. White-Taylor (Queen Mary College), Jan Pietron (Imperial College) and M. Kolaszynski (Southampton). David Bew is now training to be a teacher at Borough Road Training College.

In another intellectual sphere, only this time a little less serious, Herschel was triumphant when it defeated Hampden House in the final of the Inter-House General Knowledge Competition.

This has been a good year for the House, and we wish to express our appreciation for the interest shown by all our House Masters, particularly Mr. Wharmby, and also for all those who have served the House by their efforts.

D. J. PRATT (Hon. Secretary).

MILTON HOUSE

Senior House Master: Mr. Wall.

House Captain: E. Thomas.

Football: A. Singleton.

Hockey: D. Stenning.

Vice-Captain: C. Weightman.

Rugby and Athletics: C. Pryce.

Secretary: P. Slater.

This past year has proved a successful one for Milton both in the sporting and academic fields.

The fact that four of the members of the School's Tennis Six were Miltonians ensured our domination and ultimate success in last year's tennis tournament. We also proved ourselves to be supreme at cricket by winning all our matches quite convincingly. Our team was captained by C. Bass, who is also the captain of the School Cricket XI.

To crown this impressive record came our success at football: we won the Inter-House Championships. We fought our way through to the finals in all three sections, where we drew the senior and the intermediate and won the junior. We were, however, the overall winner on points. We were fortunate to have four colour-winners playing for us. These were R. Lister, C. Bass, A. Singleton and A. Quentin.

Last summer, following the loss of several leading lights, we were unable to hold on to the Sports Cup we had won in the previous year. Much hard work and enthusiasm in rebuilding will clearly be required.

D. Stenning and R. Fountain (captain and goalkeeper of the School Hockey XI, respectively) brought honour to the House by being chosen to play for the Bucks Schools' Team.

Of the boys who have gained academic distinction this term, special mention should be made of Alan Singleton who has obtained a place at St. John's College, Oxford; and of Edward Thomas who is going to Cambridge. As well as being our House Captain, he was a conscientious deputy head boy and we thank him for putting in so much work, both in organizing our cross-country team and in generally inspiring enthusiasm in his fellow Milton House members.

Lastly, our thanks must go to Mr. Wall and the other House Masters for their support and encouragement in the past year.

GODFREY MOORE.

SCHOOL ANTHOLOGY

THE ETERNAL GAME

The game had been going on for many years. No one remembered quite how long. There were, indeed, not many people who had been alive for long enough to have seen the beginning. But there were people in the palace who had watched many of the rounds that had been played in the high-ceilinged room whose large windows commanded magnificent views of the gardens around the grand building. These people could often be found seated on a marble window ledge or one of the many couches in the vast building, telling of memorable rounds which had filled them with excitement when they were hundreds of years younger. They would file into the playing room and silently take their places where they could see the two aged gentlemen scrutinising the beautifully decorated playing-board. Each tried to make the master-move that would gain them a victory to be recorded in the Book of Scores.

What a book was this! No other was ever made so exquisitely. It was a yard high, two feet wide and its fading yellow parchment paper was bound in leather, engraved into delicate, complex patterns of beautiful curves. Indeed, it ought to have been a book above all others, for only the Book of Life itself had been the charge of the craftsman who had produced this volume—a book worthy of a game such as this.

On its many pages were written the reports of all the rounds which had been played since the game began. In the immaculate handwriting of the Chief Scribe which had not changed since he undertook the task, were written tales of how Evil, the one player, had often triumphed over his opponent, but great friend, Good. Planets had been destroyed prematurely by earthquakes and volcanoes: a favourite move of the clever player, Evil. On other occasions Good had filled a world with civilised people who existed peacefully; but had left his defence open and Evil had seized the chance to split the race asunder with war, or, on some of his less imaginative moments, resorted again to earthquakes and volcanoes. There were tales of World Wars, of the explosions of suns, of many catastrophes which had been part of the game.

But Evil did not win on every occasion. The result of his victories was destruction but the record of the triumphs of Good remain to this day scattered across the Universe. Many races of people dwell in safety without fear of war, want, disease or death. Yes, even death has been conquered in some of Good's more inspired battles. Races have found eternal life through scientific research and have created worlds fit for the habitation of immortals.

The game was still being played and Good was concentrating on a chance of victory. The move was his. A faint smile came to his eyes but quickly faded away. Perhaps he had the chance to claim another planet. A short sigh escaped through his pale lips, only just visible through the tangled locks of his beard. A hand with character only to be gained from immense age stretched forwards onto the board. The best that circumstances would allow him to do was to stop a world war. Evil's wrinkled face lit up as he quickly made his next move, giving the people in question the nuclear bomb.

"It looks as though you've beaten me again, Evil, my old friend," smiled Good across the polished top of the beautifully decorated table.

"Now don't say that my dear Good. You've been in worse spots than this you know—and still won."

"Yes I know," sighed Good. "But you have caused two world wars, for this planet in the last fifty years of its troubled existence and now you give them the nuclear bomb. To tell you the truth, I'm becoming weary of this game."

"So am I, Good," replied Evil. "It was a clever idea when we started. It made the time pass most interestingly, but now we have changed the fate of so many people that we need something else to do."

"I'm glad you feel the same way my dear Evil," said Good. "It is about time we left these poor mortals to themselves. Tomorrow we shall play something else."

"How about noughts and crosses?" asked Evil excitedly.

"A brilliant idea, my friend," replied Good. A contented smile spread over the faces of the two old gentlemen as they reclined in their large armchairs.

R. HANNAM (5 B).

PUNCTUATION

I know a silly thing I think
It has no real intention,
It has a really stupid name
It's known as Punctuation.
It's awkward 'till you get to know
Just which is how and why;
For commas full-stops and the like
Are not for such as I.

C. MORRIS (2 B).

THE PLAN

On a bleak, cold night in November, Billy Nile walked into the 'A.I.' coffee bar. He was a short man of about forty, and he had a patch over his right eye. He was very raggedly dressed, and felt somewhat relieved when he saw his friend sitting at a table, waiting for him. He, himself, could never afford to buy coffee at the 'A.I.', but he knew his friend would do the buying. Yes, Jimmy Notch always had plenty of money, at least so it seemed.

"Hello, Bill, sit-down!" said Jimmy.

"Thanks," answered Bill.

"Two coffees, please Miss," Notch said to the waitress, "and do you want anything else Bill?"

"Well, I . . ."

"And a mixed grill." The waitress turned and went off. "Now, Bill, about next Saturday. I thought it would be best if we met outside the King's Head."

"Yes, right," answered Bill.

"And then we can walk along to the bank."

"Yes, and that's where we'll make our fortunes!" said Bill, chuckling to himself.

By now the waitress had arrived with the food. "That will be ten shillings, sir."

Bill didn't hear, he hadn't eaten for days. The steak was slightly burned, but he didn't notice. Notch sipped his coffee.

"Now look Bill, there must be no slip-ups. We've got to be there before Frederick von Derinski III, he'll be loaded. At twelve o'clock, we'll meet back here and divide the money."

In this short time Bill had eaten all that was on his plate and was gulping down his coffee.

The following Saturday a very miserable pair of tramps stood in the entrance to the bank with rain pouring down their necks. One was playing a fiddle and the other holding an old cloth cap. The cap was empty.

M. DENHAM (3 A).

THE FUTURE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

Whether we like it or not, education has become a political issue. All parties have put tremendous emphasis on it in their election manifestos. The Conservative Party is committed to the present system of primary, secondary modern, and grammar schools, but is willing to admit that the eleven plus examination is not the best way of determining a child's capabilities.

The Labour Party is committed to some sort of comprehensive system, and to a certain amount of reform of the public school system, but its proposals have not been put forward in any exact form up to the present time. The Liberal Party too, is committed to a form of comprehensive education.

Whatever party is in power, however, there is obviously a great deal of pressure for some sort of change in the educational system. Many people feel that the system is working well, and that all that is needed is some other way of dividing the sheep from the goats at the age of eleven. However, should not we be really questioning the necessity for this division?

The argument for separation is that different types of people benefit from different types of education. If the clever pupils and dull pupils are taught together, the dullards simply slow the class up. Far better to set up a form of educational apartheid, with one type of education for the clever, and one for the less clever.

In fact, this division would seem to cause many more problems than it solves. Firstly, however wrongly, children who fail the eleven plus feel inferior to their friends who have passed. This feeling of inferiority manifests itself more often than not in a rebellion against education. School becomes a penance, with the result that many can leave at the age of 15, barely able to read and write, and with a feeling of failure.

Secondly, if we take a broader view, any educational system is bound to have a great effect on the society it serves. By dividing the intelligent, from the apparently less intelligent, we are in effect creating new élites. Too often the grammar school creates cozy middle-class attitudes, a feeling of complacency, and of superiority. Surely the greatest of current problems is the inability of people to live and work happily together, not to attain new and greater intellectual performances. Studies of the present British system seem to show an emphasis on the latter rather than the former.

Can we really afford to dodge the issue of comprehensive system of education any longer? Sweden has shown the way with its comprehensive education system, in which, not only are there no external examinations until a student reaches the age of seventeen, but where it is also a basis of policy that 'the pupils must have a right to choose the course of studies even though their qualifications, as judged by the school, do not fit them for such a course'. Education is aimed in Sweden, at training a person for a place in society, yet this 'idealistic' task does not seem to reduce academic achievement. In Sweden it is expected that by 1970 a third of Swedish young people will be going on to university, as against 17% in G.B. in 1980 as envisaged in the Robbins Report.

The present British system of education is perpetrating old class barriers, and to a large extent is turning out only partly educated citizens. Reform is vital, but this reform must be radical, not just a half-hearted compromise. Let us examine critically the details of the comprehensive system by all means, but let us accept the principal it offers, a complete and good education for everyone, and a training for a place in society.

D. PRATT (U VI).

EXISTENCE

Machines,
Unmoved and unfeeling, they sit and absorb;
While the sun hard endeavours
To reach vainly within.
Mechanical Minds unnaturally function
So that all is lost as the moments rush by.
Oh, for an eternity to live, and enjoy
The wonders around us
Which pulse, and diffuse a Love so almighty
That It only can free us
From a hatred and fear which threaten forever to kill.
But now it must pass, for the piston is pounding
From a harsh lit-up darkness
Endlessly Down;
With a beating of iron that echoes on stone
It defaces all near it and leaves none Alone.
Yet tomorrow, as always, comes the white shining paper,
And an endless expanse of meaningless Words.

N. BATHURST (6²).

WORK'S END

A light aircraft skidded and shuddered to a halt, its undercarriage buried in sand. From it, suffering slightly from shock, crawled the figure of a man. I say 'slightly' because he had meant to come to this desolate spot. He didn't know why; it had been a sudden impulse.

He sat for a moment under the wing of the shattered aircraft and surveyed his surroundings. 'Why here?' he asked himself. Shrugging this off he got up and started to unload his supplies; enough for a week. He made himself a camp in the shadow of a large rock which he had selected as a favourable vantage point.

After he had made himself comfortable he set fire to the aircraft as it was of no further use to him. He settled down to wait.

The next day, when he awoke, after a very cold night, the sun was high in the sky, and towards midday the heat was unbearable. He lay in the meagre shadow of the rock gasping for breath and drinking, unsparingly, his precious supply of water. After some hours of this torment the sun began to sink towards the far distant western horizon. The desert shone bright red and the bright blue which had prevailed all day changed slowly darker. Slowly, majestically, night fell and he was able to breathe in the cooler air. All around him rocks cracked and broke, flinging pieces, sometimes quite large, in all directions. Determined not to suffer as before he pulled down his tent and made it into an awning, facing north, within which he could lie in comparative coolness. He checked his water and knew if he were to survive another six days he would have to economise.

The third day was far worse than the first. He slept well into the day and when he finally awoke the sun was nearly at the apex of its path. His awning proved a failure, so when night at last fell he took it down by the light of the moon.

In the process of erecting the tent once more he first felt the hot, dry wind blowing across the desert. 'Sandstorm' immediately flashed across his mind and he hurried to secure his provisions. Suddenly all the light was blotted out and a moaning, groaning, wailing wind struck the camp with gale force. The tent shook under the first onslaught and he wondered if it would stand up to it. Then above the storm he heard a roar which grew progressively louder.

A blinding flash. He was struck to the ground writhing in agony. Suddenly everything grew calm and peaceful and he knew he was there; eternal bliss.

From the tent strode rhythmically a metal figure towards the gleaming metal cylinder, its work finished. In the tent lay the shell of a lifeless human, now useless and discarded.

R. WILLETTS (3 B).

THE PILLAR-BOX MYSTERY

One day, Chief Sanitary Inspector Yarlow was taking a walk down Choked Drain Parade, the busy residential centre of Nutsley, when he met Old Ma Custard, a shady character frequently followed by the police.

'I think the new mayor's crackers,' she grunted in a wavering falsetto.

'I quite agree,' said Chief Sanitary Inspector Yarlow politely.

Suddenly an evil laugh came from a nearby pillar-box.

'Yellow Yarlow! Heh! Heh! Heh!' it giggled.

Then clouds of deadly 'Party Fug' gas began to pour out of the box. Within seconds everybody had disappeared; except Chief Sanitary Inspector Yarlow, who at once pulled out his special packet of (No Advertising) and smeared it over the box. The gas immediately disappeared. Chief Sanitary Inspector Yarlow had triumphed again.

After a bath with (No Advertising) he embarked on the mystery. Who had made the evil laugh? Why had Old Ma Custard been about in the past five cases of pillar boxes discharging deadly 'Party Fug' gas?

Chief Sanitary Inspector Yarlow pondered on this fact. He even translated into Latin (Indirect Statement) but he could not see the connection. But Sheerluck Moans knew. He was one of Chief Sanitary Inspector Yarlow's best friends.

'It's simple,' he said, lighting his favourite pipe, full of Old Socks Tobacco, 'by observing the pimple on Old Ma Custard's left little toe I found out that she is really Joe Snide disguised as a cow disguised as Old Ma Custard. He does the evil laugh by ventriloquism.' Incidentally, Moans used After Shave Lotion to smell sweet.

'Then let us go and pull him in,' said Chief Sanitary Inspector Yarlow, affected by Moans' posh talking.

'Absolutely,' said Sheerluck, 'but because he is dangerous I shall er . . . pack my Super-Fydro-Atomic-Ray-Disintegrator Mk.III P/. (Woolworths 19/11½d.).'

It was not needed though, for Snide broke down when confronted with his vicious crimes and he removed his disguise of a cow disguised as Old Ma Custard. So the relentless war against crime goes on.

E. FROGGATT (3 A).

LAKE OF FEAR

The wind whined through the chimneys and under the eaves of the Tudor house and the rain beat mercilessly on the windows, but inside all was silent except the huge log fire, which spat and crackled. In the living-room there were two tall arm-chairs; in one I sat and in the other John Hardcastle, known to his friends as 'Smokey' owing to his addiction to an old briar pipe, which he was never seen without.

Smokey was famous for his stories and I had passed many evenings listening to his tales. Pull up a chair and listen. He tapped his pipe on the heel of his hand, filled it, and commenced his tale.

'It all began when I was a boy and Charlie, the local poacher, promised to take me fishing on a nearby lake that he knew. From the beginning an air of mystery was built up over the lake. For some reason the locals didn't seem to like the idea of our going and the innkeeper tried to put us off by saying there were no fish there.

'It was four o'clock on a cold misty June morning when we first went; that was a strange thing about that lake, even when the surrounding countryside was warm it was cold there and there were never any birds or animals present. We settled down in the only two fishable places, and I sat watching my motionless float. Once I heard splashes from Charlie's swim, followed by violent oaths when the fish came off. After came silence, broken only by the occasional plop of Charlie's cigarette ends landing in the water.

We caught nothing that or any other time but the eel lines Charlie put out each evening were always broken by the next morning.

The next time I went to that lake was twenty years later and of all things I decided to fish alone at night. I arrived in the evening, set up my table and prepared myself for my night's fishing. I had been there for about three-quarters of an hour when a small boy came down to the lake and squatted near me. He wore no shoes or socks, but that wasn't very strange really, for it was mid-summer and it was warm even by the lake. He didn't say anything, just staring at my motionless float and finally with the last light he departed, leaving me alone, surrounded by a foreboding silence.

I sat there all night but nothing stirred until the first signs of dawn crept over the eastern hills. Now I'm no a coward and I've spent many nights fishing by myself at other places without the slightest quirk. I swear the happenings that followed started my hair greying. I was getting really disheartened by this time and I was beginning to wonder whether there were any fish in the lake when suddenly the water at my feet erupted into violent turmoil. The water round my float boiled and I'm sure that if it had gone under I wouldn't have been able to move to strike. Finally, after a few minutes it subsided and I was left again in silence.

After that there seemed to be nothing to do but go home. It was some time before I was in that area again and then it was to fish the river which was nearby. However, the river was in flood, so I decided to visit a nearby church; I'm interested in old churches you know. Well, I was wondering through the graveyard when a particular gravestone caught my interest. At the head of the grave was the statue of a small boy who wore no shoes or socks, in fact it was just like the boy at the lake. I turned my attention to the inscription which read:

In loving memory of
JOHN BUCKLAND

Who was drowned in a
nearby lake on June,
21st, 1942. Aged 12.

Well, that's my story,' said Smokey. 'You can draw your own conclusions.'

P. R. HOUSE (3 B).



Linocut by F. Taylor (L. VI)

PATRIOTISM

A patriot, being one who loves his country, is of course willing to offer himself as a sacrifice for the well-being of his country, even willing to die. But not only this, for this is a patriotic extreme, he is proud of, and a champion of his homeland.

A British patriot is therefore willing to die for the continuance of the National Health Scheme, cricket, and the Dave Clark Five. He is proud of rain, fish and chips, roast beef and Yorkshire pudding (he certainly has something to be proud of!).

Patriotism, though it may seem at first a commendable quality, is nothing of the sort. It is one of the great misapprehensions. In the old-fashioned world of today ideas prevail which react against the novelty of youth, which has no deep feelings for its country in most cases.

Today we have little—in this country at least—to be proud of, and certainly nothing which I should like to die for, or see any of my friends die for. One cannot be expected to give one's life for the continuance of Conservatism, Aylesbury Sewage Works or all the other great things that this country offers for the future.

This may appear a singular view, but is probably that of thinking youths (as opposed to unthinking senility, whose greatest pleasure is to vegetate before the television machine and deplore youngsters who find pleasure in such despicably moronic pastimes as dancing, bowling and generally enjoying themselves. They reminisce about the good old days when they would have gladly died if the Prime Minister had given the word), patriotism is now out of date, and remains a thing of the past.

In India, can the Indian be proud of his starving compatriots? Can the American be proud of the high crime rate in America? Can the young Englishman be proud of his older conceited compatriots, dreaming of the good old days and recognising an out-of-date monarchy? What is there in the world today worth dying for?

As young people are being educated better, they have the intelligence sooner to realise that since they were born first, why should they be prepared to leap into the fray and protect the next generation? Whoever rules the world, man will adapt himself to any change in his life, even from working in an office to working on a collective-farm.

People are being taught, whether directly or by watching their neighbours, the meaning of 'look after number one' and 'blow you Jack, I'm all right!' Although we may not wish to admit it, this philosophy is exerting greater and greater influence on our actions. At the same time it pounds to dust any remaining fragments of patriotism. The feeling is that we have a debt to society and that our country is dying, if not dead. It is senseless that an ordinary man should fight a war, get himself blown up or maimed and expect to pick up the threads of his life, while others sit back and watch.

The sooner people realise that loyalty to one's country in the extreme is ridiculous, the sooner we will have a more peaceful world. If nobody strives for world power, there will be no wars. Patriotism is an anachronism.

A. GEARING (L. VI).

A SPANISH PRISONER

The heat was almost unbearable. It seemed as if a fire raged outside the wooden cubicle, in which he had spent the past three hours. He looked about him . . . he was quite alone, and confused, to say the least. Why had he been kept locked up, he kept asking himself, he wouldn't harm anyone. He shook his head to remove the sweat from his eyes, but it didn't help, it only made him more dizzy. It he only knew for what reason he was imprisoned, perhaps then he could protest, but being shut up for no apparent reason, it wasn't right.

Suddenly he stopped questioning himself, he had heard something, he strained his ears. It sounded like a small gathering of men all talking at once. At first it seemed to come from a long way off, but after a few minutes it became louder, but still it was muffled. He became more impatient to get out. He kicked at the heavy wooden door, but to no avail. 'I must get away from this oven,' he thought. But he could do nothing, for the door was securely bolted.

Then to his surprise, the door swung open. He squinted, the strong sunlight was too much for him. Then he realised that they must have discovered their mistake and were now setting him free. He stumbled out into the open. But as he did, a tremendous roar echoed around, which made his head ring. Where could he be now? he wondered.

He looked up. Thousands of men, women and children were jeering at him from terraced seats high above him. He looked down and turned his head forward. He caught sight of something. There, about ten yards in front of him, stood a lonely figure—a matador.

P. V. RUFUS (VC).

THE SONG OF THE BALL

The spectators have left, their farewells taken;
The field is deserted once more.
And here I lie in the mud, forsaken,
I, who helped you to score!
To the shouts of the crowd I tried for the school,
I flew through the air like a bird.
'Head it!' 'Pass it!' 'Shoot, you fool!'—
These were the sounds I heard.
But now the players have gone to their tea,
And to talk of the match they won.
Not one of them spared a thought for me
And all the work I had done.
A bladder of wind in a bag of leather,
The rain has soaked me through!
Remember you boys, ere you leave me to weather,
The poor football has feelings too!

KEITH FRENCH (1 B).

MARATHON

Running, faster, faster, faster,
Comes the man who brings good news,
Panting louder, louder, louder,
Through the mountains, hills and passes,
From the battleground of wounded,
Field of sweat and blood and death,
Brave Philipides the runner,
Leaving Marathon behind him,
Nearing now the town of Athens,
Reaching it with goodly speed:
Now as he announces 'Vict'ry!'—
By the temple, Parthenon
Dead upon the ground he falls.

I. R. JORDAN (3 B).

WHY, BLAME THE ANIMALS?

Since time immemorial man has been unable to face up to the fact that the trouble with man is man. Instead he has blamed his faults, mistakes and misdeeds on to the animal kingdom. Because of this, many species have been ridiculed and degraded without anyone showing much concern.

We call a person chicken when all the time he is a cowardly man; our puppy fat is really human fat; a cat burglar does not turn out to be a furry animal, but a man; we are not greedy or gluttonous but piggish or hogs, and the German army was supposed to step like a goose. This all goes to show that man is unable to face the truth about himself, and has insulted and slandered many poor creatures. Stick a knife into an ox to see what happens and our animal lovers will be at your throat, but say that someone is as dumb as an ox and although they will not turn a hair, in a way you will have done just as much harm by associating an unintelligent man with an ox which has probably more sense.

A complete list of all these slanderous animal expressions and slandered animals would fill several volumes and include such choice items as gentle as a lamb, lionhearted, mad as a March hare, sly as a fox, fish, dogs, bats, toads, rats, elephants, mice, giraffes, cats, peacocks, skunks, worms, baboons: to name but a few of this verbal menagerie.

I hope that one day we will no longer become dog-tired through working like beavers, or have bats in the belfry, but instead become man tired through working like men, and just simply go completely round the bend or flip our lids. Until then I suppose we will continue to count our sheep, but I wonder if it is possible that one day we shall be counting men instead?

P. WILLATTS (4 C).

A TALE OF TWO KNEES

A locksmith one day made some keys
Which fitted his elephant's knees:
So they stared at the ceiling,
Sweetly revealing
That ice put in porridge will freeze.

R. HANNAM (5 B).

'DESIR. DET. RES.'

I had been teaching in Slough for two years before I thought of moving house from Aylesbury to be nearer my work. The main reason for my wanting to move was the cost of travelling the fifteen or twenty miles every day from Slough to Aylesbury. In spite of the many promises to lower the price of petrol my hopes in this direction had not yet been realised so that my weekly expenditure was beginning to average some three pounds ten shillings, not an inconsiderable amount, taking into account the salary of a school teacher only in his third year.

Taking a five mile radius from the centre of Slough as a reasonable distance to travel to and from work every day, I found that a number of supposedly 'desirable' areas were included in Slough's hinterland. As I scanned the Ordnance Survey Map laid before me, the first place to catch my eye was Gerrard's Cross.

I visualised a pretty little village in the heart of Buckinghamshire's glorious woods. When I arrived at Gerrard's Cross later that afternoon, however, I found that it wasn't at all as I had imagined. Nevertheless it was an attractive enough place with a modern High Street and all the facilities that a town in 1964 should have had. Nor was the centre lacking in Estate Agents. (I believe I counted four in one street alone). There was one such firm, however, that stood out above the rest. The sign over the door read, 'BROADBOTTOM, BROADBOTTOM, WICKS AND SON LTD'. Perhaps it was the name that impressed me.

Anyway, I entered through the door and found myself in a spacious, airy, tastefully decorated outer office. Three of the walls were bare but on the fourth there hung a large, imposing portrait, evidently that of the original Estate-Agent, Broadbottom, Gilbert. On a table in the middle of the room sat a bell similar to those found on reception counters in most hotels. I rang for service.

On the third ring a door opened and a dark-haired man entered from what I supposed was the inner office.

'Good afternoon sir, can I help you?'

I couldn't think of any other reason for my having rung the bell but refrained from passing a comment to that effect. As he was young in years I deduced that he must be the junior partner. Rather rudely I blurted out what I was thinking.

'Son of Wicks?' I asked.

For a moment he hesitated but regained his composure, coughed politely and resumed.

'Is sir looking for a house?'

I replied in the affirmative.

'Six thousand about the price you are looking for?' he asked, looking me up and down as if he might be estimating the value of my new suit, or alternatively my coffin measurements.

'Yes' I answered, flattered by the valuation. But seeking to qualify what I thought had been a rather too confident reply I added, 'or thereabouts'.

It happened that that very day a house had been vacated, not in Gerrard's Cross but in the neighbouring town, Chalfont St. Peter, by a civil servant retired to Bournemouth with a C.B.E. and a pension of four thousand pounds. Not wishing to hurt the poor man's feelings by turning down the offer which he assured me was 'absolutely magnificent' I agreed to go along with him to investigate the property.

The house which stood on a hill overlooking the town must have been at least two hundred years old. If it was reasonably attractive on the outside it was a morgue inside. In fact I had to go no further than the entrance hall to know that this was just not for me. In the kindest way possible I managed to communicate this to Mr. Wicks.

After inspecting two other unattractive properties in the area, I apologised to Mr. Wicks for having wasted his time and returned, somewhat dejected, to Aylesbury. My brother had just arrived home from Langley where he had been visiting friends. Over tea we related our respective stories. He expressed astonishment when I told him the price of houses in Gerrard's Cross and assured me that those in Langley were far cheaper. It appeared that whilst in Langley he had made a cursory inspection of properties which he thought might possibly interest me.

I took his advice and next weekend drove down to Langley in the hope of finding my dream house. And find it I did; a 'small two bedroom, living room, W.C., tiled bathroom, kitchen/breakfast room with plenty of garage space' dream house. Not being the practical out-of-doors type I was particularly attracted by the small garden entirely laid down to grass. The sum total of the property after garage extensions, was three thousand pounds, only five hundred pounds less than the large eighteenth century edifice at Chalfont St. Peter.

Feeling pretty pleased with myself for coming upon such a cheap house so near suburban London, I moved from Aylesbury to Langley in the April.

Two years later I happened to be making a journey from London along the new M8 motorway to Oxford. Passing along the fast carriageway through the heart of Buckinghamshire I saw down below to my right a small town nestling in a valley.

'That view seems vaguely familiar', I commented to my fellow traveller, 'what is the village over there?'

'Over there, oh, that must be Chalfont St. Peter', he answered, 'you probably saw photographs of it in the national dailies a few years back when this road was being built. Some old house had to be torn down to make way for the motorway. I believe the plot of land sold for £85,000, or was it £185,000; I can't just remember.'

J. NELSON (L VI).

ANY JUMBLE PLEASE?

We pushed the cart for many an hour,
We pushed in wind and shine and shower.
Pots and pans made up our collection,
Of old clothes there was a selection;
Shoes and boots, and radios too:
Broken alarm clocks?—We had a few.
The date was fixed, the sale was fun,
And many a bargain hunter had come;
Profit was counted and sent on its way
To keep OXFAM going another day.

J. ISMAY (1 B).

'A NIGHT-WALK THROUGH ANY BIG CITY'

Coming out of the cinema at a late hour, my plan had been to catch a bus home, but the cool of the night and the stars burning brightly above changed my mind, so I set off on the three-mile walk home.

I was in the heart of the city's nightlife. Luxurious restaurants still had their doors wide-open. Evening dresses swished passed me on their way to some all-night cabaret. Neon lights briefly lit a passer-by's face. Cars rushed past, lights glaring, to glide smoothly round a corner further into the gleaming, noisy hubbub. Roisterous groups would come crashing out of one of the select public-houses, only to sail merrily into the next round the corner. A few buskers danced and sang in the very middle of a roaring main road, whilst a policeman, unable to reach them for the continuous stream of traffic, desperately signalled at them to go on their way. Traffic lights joined their colours to the cacophonous riot of drinks, razor blades and Joe's Café, the last obviously one of the less popular haunts of the richer clientele. I regretfully stopped, once more took in this fantastic, fabulous dream-place, then dived out into the darkness of a dingy lane.

Here all was quiet. Not twenty yards from that medley of night entertainment, nothing was to be heard. I wove my way through these streets, following a sense of direction rather than any absolute knowledge. High walls concealed me from waste-ground, and frequently an old bridge spanned the road, its excuse for life being apparently non-existent. Here it was pitch-black, and I could see only ten yards before me. I kept looking round, the stealth of this place nearly overwhelming me. I was not afraid, but these streets had a definite, almost tangible, atmosphere, lingering from the times when they had seen nightly robberies, assaults and murders. I was more than glad, therefore, to come to a section of broken wall, and jump down into a bombed site, equally dark, but less constricting and choking.

Now I could see the stars again, and after a while their light was sufficient for me to pick out the easiest way across the site. I set off, passing piles of bricks from which reared great gorse bushes, and stumbling over old bits of wood. I thought of these as houses, which they must have been, but could get no clear picture from this scene of utmost desolation and loneliness. I disturbed a cat sleeping by a bush, putting it to startled flight, and making my pulse stagger drunkenly. I continued warily, attempting to pass the gaunt struts of fire-blackened wood, only remnant of once solid buildings, with as much room to spare as possible. A groan suddenly issued from in front of and below me, and I just managed to side-step an old cellar-hole, although the noise had frightened me considerably until I realised that it must be a tramp taking cover where possible. Even so, for me, all joy which I might have derived from walking out there in the dark was now lost, and I hastened on quickly. Finally reaching the other side, I clambered over a wall, and found myself near my home.

It is difficult to describe how different the atmosphere was here. With that site only just behind me, I lost all my morbid imaginings, silently laughing at my stupidity. Whistling quietly, I trod the familiar paving-stones of my street, unable to associate this place with all that had gone before. This to me was home, and all the ghouls of hell could not have frightened me there. How strange man is. And how many moods to a city!

G. HAMMOND (4 B).

THE RUSH OF LIFE

Dark and gloomy rears the tyrant wall,
Poised in the rush of life—devouring all.
The mind within seeks cracks through which a light
May pierce the darkness of that captive night.
Within the wall there lies a broken shell,
Poor remnant of a former mighty self,
Which from its freedom slunk to this dark cell
Clutched by disease, which stole with evil stealth.
To captives such as these the world is small
Imprisoned minds confining thoughts and will.
No hope; until the peace of Nature's shawl
Should proffer sundered sanity death's still.

G. HAMMOND (4 B).

THE MAJESTY OF SILENCE

The majesty of silence, stillness;
Ghosts of sun lifting gargoyles in sudden whiteness;
Gothic tracery dimly perceived
And shades of old brass knights.
Silence, shadow, the mellow calm of quietist prayer,
The peace of God, physical void made rich with Presence.
Beyond the walls, above the Cimmerian cool
Of Our Lady's Chapel
The day streams on.
The sun, the sky, the movement of the trees,
Our being and nature are but dimly perceived.
Light streams in at the window,
But adds not, neither detracts
From our poor call to God.

A. BIEBUYCK (U VI).



Linocut by R. Scott (L. VI)

TIGER!

Fierce, strong and streaky hunter,
 Mauling, vicious, stealing prowler,
 Roaring, growling, feline tiger,
 Fighting hunter bringing death.
 Lying dormant in the jungle,
 Stalking silent after prey,
 Eyes agleam, venomous pin-points,
 Without mercy, out to kill.
 In a zoo, caged up and silent,
 Eyes cast down and half-asleep;
 Victim of spectators' jesting;
 No more killing! No more prey!

K. JONES (3 A).

IN THE MOUNTAINS

I looked above me in the sky
 To where the giant stood.
 A gleaming mountain! Oh, so high,
 I'd climb it if I could.
 And still beside it in the sun
 There lies a silver lake;
 Over the waters shadows run
 And ripples gently break.

T. LEWIN (2 B).

SCHOOL COLOURS: OR FACETIAE IN YELLOW MINOR
WITH DEEP PURPLE UNDERTONES

(Lament)

Once there was a Fifth Former who didn't wear his cap,
Never cleaned his suede shoes, wrote homework off the map.
He smoked on top of 'buses, played poker in a school.
He got a Beatle haircut . . . In short, he played the fool.
He died for lack of 'O' Levels. Epitaph: 'Skyve, Shall Ye Find?'
The moral? He died ignorant;—but the **Sixth** Form's unconfined.

(Limerick)

There was a schoolboy three toes short,
Upside down on his nose he would walk.
Losing all sense of smell
In school he'd excel—
Scenting nothing but what he was taught.

(“Tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor”)

Tennis, running, cricket, softball;
Rugby, soccer, cross-country, gym.
A choice confusion—sports for all,
But many still prefer marking.
Drama, painting, woodwork, music;
Bridge-drives, debates, tiddly-winks, chess.
Confusing choice—scholastic body politic,
And many join the A.C.F.
Yet some opt out. Not keen? Rebelling?
There's no answer—not off pat.
Unless—a firm, unfounded feeling;
A prune's a prune for a' that.

(Ode: to the Divine Hogg)

'Eleven Plus,' Eleven minus.
Grammar School and secondary mod,
One in twenty to university,
Was this ordained by God?
Or by His representative,
The Minister, Quintin Hogg?

(Ballad)

She loved an onion,
An onion loved her.
Firm flesh. Moist flesh,
Vision a blur.
Once it was Spring—
That shallot over there,
Peeling off outer covering—
Not yet quite bare,
Brown giver of pleasure—Repetitively.
Loved an onion?
Oh yes. She was an onion you see.

PATRICK SLATER (U VI).

BEHIND EVERY GREAT MAN . . .

Behind every man, they say, there is a woman.

True, very true.

Whether their actions have been motivated by power, greed or just the composition of music, they can be found in abundance. Behind Caesar and Antony there was Cleopatra; behind Napoleon—Josephine; Mozart's marvellous music was said to have been inspired by his beautiful wife; Nelson's strategy by Lady Hamilton; Drake's patriotism by Elizabeth I. And to a lesser extent it can apply to smaller individuals.

Doyle had let Scott share his flat, until Scott could find new digs. On Scott's second day at the flat, it started. 'Did I ever tell you how I had to get six elephants into an Austin Seven?' Scott asked. 'It's extremely difficult I can tell you, unless of course you put three in the front and three in the back.'

Doyle gave Scott an odd look; Doyle had always admired Scott for his intelligence. Scott on the other hand, considered Doyle common, in fact, a misfit.

'Then of course there was the time I had an elephant caught up a tree!' related Scott.

'Was it difficult getting him down?' inquired Doyle.

'I'll say it was! But I got him to hold onto a leaf, then we just waited until Autumn,' said Scott.

'You fool,' said Doyle laughing.

'Who are you calling a fool? Don't answer that! You uneducated baboon! You wet cod! If Darwin's theory was correct, it would certainly apply to you, Doyle!' shouted Scott.

Doyle leapt at Scott, but Scott quickly moved aside, and twisted Doyle's arm up his back. 'Now apologise!' shouted Scott.

'Aagh! Get off, apologise for what?' asked Doyle, who was obviously suffering acute pain.

'What for? For calling me an uneducated baboon, a wet cod, and the descendant of a monkey, that's what for!' lied Scott.

'Liar, aagh! It was . . . you . . . who . . . called!' answered Doyle.

Scott let go of Doyle's arm and said, 'So you deny it! How dare you?'

Then, changing the subject, Scott asked, 'Did I tell you how I shot a pink elephant? I did it with a green elephant gun, and I brought him home in a Swan Vesta matchbox; an ordinary matchbox wasn't big enough.' Scott appeared to be in earnest. 'Who lives upstairs?' he asked.

'Julie,' replied Doyle sulkily.

'Julie?' pondered Scott, 'Julie, that's a foreign name isn't it? Sounds rather Russian to me.' Doyle was silent. He was wondering what the figures of the number of insane people were, and how many were violent, with tendencies to murder. He rushed to the door, but was intercepted by Scott, who locked the door and put the key in his pocket.

'So, I guessed did I? You're both in it together, two Russian spies!' said Scott. 'It's rather obvious, really, easy to guess. I've seen "From Russia With Love" four times.'

Scott told Doyle to make a cup of tea, Doyle obliged, for he was frightened. Scott picked up his paper, the 'Guardian'. As Doyle passed Scott to get the tea caddy from a shelf behind Scott, he could see a comic inside the 'Guardian'. Doyle was amazed.

'But I thought you read the "Guardian"?' inquired Doyle.

'No brains you know. The doctor said I've got no brains. It comes from living in a hot water tap for three thousand years. Hot, wet and sticky it was!' related Scott, calmly.

But Doyle was anything but calm. Quick as lightning he grabbed a spare key from a cupboard by the sink on the opposite side of the room from Scott. He darted for the door, and was out and down the stairs immediately. Julie walked into Doyle's flat, looked at Scott and said, 'Well, did my plan work?'

'Perfectly,' replied Scott, who began to laugh, almost like a real maniac.

M. COOPER (4 A).

TENTING

Tenting is a marvellous way of spending one's holiday. The equipment is cheap and easy to erect, easy to pack and easy to carry. With a miniature house packed into the boot of your car, you don't have to worry about reaching your destination on time, since you don't generally know what your destination is until you're there. You can stop when you like, and are absolutely free to plan your holiday as you go along, setting out in the morning with often only a very rough idea of where your next camp will be. It is possible to tour the continent in a tent at very much lower prices than it might cost to stay in a hotel in England, and far more enjoyable. Many people take to camping because it is the only way they can afford to go abroad, and find it so enjoyable that when they eventually can afford to stay in a hotel, they prefer to sleep under canvas.

It is never necessary to get up in the morning to see what the weather is like in a tent. If it is fine the interior of the tent rapidly becomes so hot that you have to get out to enjoy the sun; if it is rainy the pitter-patter on the canvas tells you so and you can just turn over and go back to sleep until it clears. Meals can be taken whenever you want them, not whenever the management want them, as in a hotel, and nobody minds at what time you get up or retire.

Camping sites are forever increasing in number and quality, especially on the continent, and the amenities of some equal many hotels, having shops, restaurants, bars, swimming pools, even cinemas. Few large towns are without a camping site, and many have several, including those which have their own private beaches.

Yes, I am really looking forward to our summer holiday this year. We're towing our caravan to Spain.

C. WHITELEY (4 C).

OF MINDS AND MEN

'Five minutes'. It was the tall man who spoke. 'If He's on time'—said the other, a short, fat fellow, with big, ugly, nail-bitten hands, dirty suede shoes and a loud check suit which was too long in the arm and too short in the leg. 'He'll be on time'.

The short man stood up and went up to the thick glass windows. 'In five minutes this is going to be the centre of the world. London will be nothing, New York will be nothing, Moscow will be nothing. This miserable solid-walled prison is going to be the centre of literature, industry, politics. And you and I will be Kings. Kings of what? Of a universe of corpses? Of dead flowers and dead trees and dead life?' He spun round. 'What's the sense, what's the purpose of it all? I'm your King and you're my King—'

'Shut up! Have you re-checked the seals and the air-conditioning?'

'I've re-checked and re-checked them. To put your mind at rest, ten minutes ago all the necessary machinery was switched on to allow you to subsist for one year in a water-tight, air-tight, anti-lightning, anti-whirlwind, sub-human hell. Living in a tin, out of a tin, just so that you can walk out of that door in a year's time and say, "Look at me, World, because I'm your King. I'm King because I'm all that's left." He looked out of the window again. 'What a God-forsaken hole for your heroic stand.' He shivered. 'Hell, I feel scared.'

'Don't start arguing about this place again. You know why it was chosen.' His eyes gleamed. 'Just think, in two minutes we're going to be the only people alive in this world.'

'But why? Why kill everyone? Why...'

He looked deeply into the other's eyes and shuddered.

'Look', said the tall man, 'If you aren't satisfied with things like this you can easily shoot me. The gun is in the drawer.' He took it out and laid it on the table. 'But you won't shoot me because you're a spineless coward who's only worried about his own welfare. You couldn't live with yourself.' His voice changed from taunting to commanding. 'Just remember who decides everything around here. You've got another year to live with me so you'd better make the best of it.'

The short man was facing the window. Suddenly he stiffened. 'Look, for Christ's sake, look! It's going grey outside. It's like mist.'

'Just like He said.'

'But, it's just like a swirling mist. God, is that Death?'

'You can go out and see. Otherwise you can sit here and think what you're going to do when you can go outside.'

The short man shuddered.

'You mean we're the only people alive in the world now?'

'Almost certainly. It might take another couple of minutes for the effect to become lethal down mine shafts, but in five minutes we will certainly be the only people in the world.'

He looked up towards the ceiling.

'Now o'er the one half-world Nature is dead. And I'm the other half. I've done it, I've done it!' he shouted. He pushed the short man away from the window, and gazed out into the opacity. His eyes gleamed. 'God, it's magnificent. Kill, kill, you can't catch me.' He laughed hysterically. 'King of the world, King of the world. How does the crown fit, your lordship?' He stopped. 'A year in this hell-hole before I breathe the air of my kingdom...'

'If ever,' interrupted the short man.

The other turned round slowly and looked at the short man as if he was trying to remember his face from somewhere.

'If ever? If ever?' He moved close to the other. 'Of course it will go,' he said, as if trying to convince himself. 'Yes, of course it will go. He said so, didn't He? He's been right so far hasn't He? Of course it will go.' He turned back to the window. 'God, it's got to go...'. 'What a death,' mused the short man, 'to suffocate and starve in here!'

The tall man spun round again. 'It's not Death in here, it's Life. It's Death out there. We're alive because we're in here. And we're the most important people in the world because we're in here and alive.'

'And tell me, what do we do when we walk out of that door, then? With no women, children, trees, birds. Only death. What do we do then?'

The tall man grabbed the gun from the table. 'Shut up, shut up! I'll kill you if you carry on like that. What does it matter what we do? I want to sit on a King's throne and look at everyone else, dead, and say "Look at me, I'm greater than all of you now." I'll be King and I'll have everything for myself because, because...'. He threw the gun back on the table and sat down, white-faced, his hands gripping the sides of the chair. He focused his eyes on the short man.

'Do something,' he suddenly screamed, 'do something. Kick a ball or read a book, but don't stare at me.'

The short man moved to the billiards table and took a cue from the rack. He rolled it across the table. Then he bent over the table, and watched as the ball kissed the red and rolled into the middle pocket. He picked it out, reset it, played the same shot—and missed. He looked at the tall man, who was watching him intently. He offered him the cue. The tall man took it, chalked the tip slowly, and took his stance. He drew back the cue, then hit

the ball wildly, as hard as he could. He went on hitting at where it had been on the table until the cloth tore. Then he threw the cue down.

He became aware the other was watching him apprehensively. 'I played... the wrong shot,' he said, and walked back to the window.

He was still looking out of the window, three hours later, when the telephone rang. Both men spun round, the short man from his chess game at the table. They looked at each other. The telephone had been brought along as a symbol of civilization in their solitude. It was just an ordinary black telephone, worn with constant use, the disconnected wire trailing from it.

'It can't, it can't,' murmured the tall man to himself. 'It can't.'

The phone rang again, more insistently.

He grabbed the wire and showed it to the phone. 'Look, phone, you're not connected. You can't ring because you're not connected. There's no electricity here, phone.'

The phone rang again.

He moved away and picked up the billiard cue. He approached the phone with his weapon. 'You can't ring because you're not connected, phone,' he repeated. The phone rang again, short, sharp and impatiently, unlike the previous long rings. The tall man sprang forward and smashed the cue against the phone. He smashed at it again and again, and when the cue broke and the phone fell on the floor, he kicked and trampled it until it was just a mass of powder and wire, screaming 'You're not connected' all the time.

Slowly he stopped and stood back. Sweat was pouring from his face, and his eyes were bloodshot.

'It couldn't have because there's no-one else. It wasn't connected so it couldn't ring. It couldn't ring because there's no-one else. Could it?' he suddenly screamed at the short man.

'I don't know, I... don't know.' He looked at the other. 'No, it couldn't. You're right. It didn't ring.' He looked at the phone. 'It couldn't, could it?'

He sat down at the chess-board again, changing positions so that he could look at the phone. 'No, it couldn't.'

'It couldn't,' repeated the tall man. He sat down in the chair, looking very haggard. 'It couldn't.'

Both men stared at the phone.

An hour later they were still in the same position, as if mesmerized by the broken mass of wires. Then they heard the door.

There was no doubt it was a knock. The door was fibre-glass, very strong but not thick, sealed all round the edges by intricate locking air-tight devices.

The knock came again, more insistent. The men looked at each other, their faces death-white. Both were frozen to the spot.

The knocking became more commanding. The short man plugged his fingers in his ears, but the knocking was like a drum, and he could not block it out.

'Go away,' screamed the tall man, suddenly. 'Go away, there's no-one here. Please leave us alone. Go away.'

The knocking got louder.

The tall man screamed louder and hammered his hands against the side of his head. The knocking seemed to be shaking the walls.

Suddenly the short man started out of the chair. He kicked the table from before him, scattering the chess-pieces. As it fell, he grabbed the gun and ran up to the door, and fired the heavy pistol point-blank into it. The armour-piercing bullets thudded through the door. When the gun was empty, he flung it at the door. The knocking had stopped.

He turned round and looked at his fellow, who slowly removed his hands from his head. The tall man got up from the chair and stared at his panting fellow. Then he began to laugh, hysterically, madly. As he started to cry he pointed to the grey wisps of smoke coming through the holes in the door.

K. ELLIOTT (U VI).

GAMES AND ATHLETICS

ATHLETICS 1963

Sports day 1963 proved to be very successful with several school records being broken. It is pleasing to note how records, although of a high standard, are broken from year to year. This is obviously not the result of a casual outlook to the sport, but of the will to win that exists in these athletes and the result of hard, methodical training.

In this day of 'high-powered' athletics, an athlete must set his mind on one target, be it a 4-minute mile or a 7 foot high jump and must work to achieve his aim, taking joy and disappointment, success and failure in his stride and must always look forward, never backwards. There is no short cut to success; training is the most important word in an athlete's life; it is something not to be sneered at but to be enjoyed. The actual winning of an event is comparatively unimportant as long as afterwards an athlete can sit back and be well satisfied by his own unaided effort.

M. ROUSE (Sports Editor).

SPORTS DAY 1963

G—Gray, Ha—Hampden, He—Herschel, M—Milton.

Class 3—Under 13 yrs. on 31/3/63.

Class 2—13 to 15 yrs. on 31/3/63.

Class 1—Over 15 yrs. on 31/3/63.

CLASS 1

100 yards [Record 10.6 secs. T. W. S. Groome 1951; M. Deuchar 1958; A. E. Alderman 1960; R. Stevens 1961.]

1st M. Holloway (He), 2nd A. Alderman (G), 3rd G. Hester (Ha), 4th P. White (Ha).

[Time: 10.8 secs.]

220 yards [Record 23.5 secs. M. Deuchar 1958.]

1st C. Wood (M), 2nd M. Holloway (He), 3rd G. Hester (Ha), 4th A. Alderman (G).

[Time: 24.8 secs.]

440 yards [Record 52.5 secs. R. Flower 1962.]

1st R. Barrett (G), 2nd P. Virgo (G), 3rd A. Johnson (He), 4th C. Ramsdale (Ha).

[Time: 53.8 secs.]

880 yards [Record 2 mins. 2.8 secs. R. Walmsley 1957.]

1st R. Barrett (G), 2nd D. Dilnot (He), 3rd E. Thomas (M), 4th C. Ramsdale (Ha).

[Time: 2 mins. 2.5 secs. (New Record)]

1 Mile [Record 4 mins. 42.3 secs. M. Duff 1962.]

1st M. Rouse (G), 2nd D. Dilnot (He), 3rd E. Thomas (M), 4th P. Hinchcliffe (G).

[Time: 4 mins. 40.9 secs. (New Record)]

Hurdles [Record 14.0 secs. R. Stevens 1961.]

1st C. Wood (M), 2nd C. Louch (M), 3rd G. Thomas (He), 4th P. Hinchcliffe (G).

[Time: 14.9 secs.]

High Jump [Record 5 ft. 8 ins. M. Holliday 1959.]

1st D. Godfrey (He), 2nd D. Carritt (M), 3rd M. Holloway (He), 4th C. Bass (M).

[Height: 5 ft. 2 ins.]

Long Jump [Record 20 ft. 10 ins. P. Ford 1944.]

1st A. Johnson (He), 2nd A. Alderman (G), 3rd J. Le Page (He), 4th C. Wood (M).

[Distance: 19 ft. 0 ins.]

Triple Jump [Record 44 ft. 6 ins. M. Holliday 1960.]

1st A. Johnson (He), 2nd J. Le Page (He), 3rd E. Thomas (M), 4th J. Rymel (Ha).

[Distance: 40 ft. 9 ins.]

Pole Vault [Record 9 ft. 4 ins. M. Holloway 1962.]

1st M. Holloway (He), 2nd C. Carritt (M), 3rd G. Coleman (He), 4th R. Sharp-house (Ha).

[Height: 9 ft. 10 ins. (New Record)]

Shot [Record 45 ft. 1 in. B. Cleverley 1956.]

1st I. Taylor (He), 2nd R. Lister (M), 3rd D. Symes (G), 4th A. Gooch (Ha).

[Distance: 43 ft. 4 ins.]

Javelin [Record 181 ft. 10 ins. M. Holliday 1959.]

1st I. Taylor (He), 2nd M. Holder (Ha), 3rd R. Smith (He), 4th D. Roberts (G).

[Distance: 170 ft. 10 ins.]

Discus [Record 133 ft. 0 ins. B. Cleverley 1959.]

1st A. Gooch (Ha), 2nd G. Thomas (He), 3rd P. Virgo (G), 4th B. Higginson (Ha).

[Distance: 128 ft. 5 ins.]

Relay [Record 46.7 secs. Hampden 1962.]

1st Gray, 2nd Herschel, 3rd Hampden.

[Time: 47.7 secs.]

CLASS II

100 yards [Record 11.0 secs. A. J. Gibson 1958.]
 1st R. Poulter (M), 2nd G. Olson (Ha), 3rd P. Bell (Ha), 4th C. Hart (G).
 [Time: 11.2 secs.]
 220 yards [Record 24.6 secs. A. E. Alderman 1957.]
 1st R. Poulter (M), 2nd G. Olson (Ha), 3rd P. Bell (Ha), 4th C. Hart (G).
 [Time: 25.9 secs.]
 440 yards [Record 57.0 secs. R. Thomas 1957, R. Barrett 1961.]
 1st G. Wallace (G), 2nd R. Grantham (Ha), 3rd A. Peters (G), 4th M. Stanborough (Ha).
 [Time: 57.9 secs.]
 880 yards [Record 2 mins. 12.9 secs. R. Barrett 1961.]
 1st J. Luckie (M), 2nd G. Crawford (Ha), 3rd D. Murtagh (Ha), 4th I. Cruickshank (Ha).
 [Time: 2 mins. 11.3 secs. (New Record)]
 1 Mile [Record 5 mins. 3 secs. M. Rouse 1961.]
 1st J. Luckie (M), 2nd K. Messenger (Ha), 3rd N. Campbell (Ha), 4th R. Lang (G).
 [Time: 5 mins. 1.4 secs. (New Record)]
 Hurdles [Record 11.4 secs. C. Wood 1961.]
 1st J. R. Hamilton (He), 2nd M. Kennedy (M), 3rd K. Messenger (Ha), 4th H. Burden (He).
 [Time: 11.6 secs.]
 High Jump [Record 5 ft. 4 ins. P. Griffiths 1961.]
 1st M. Clark (M), 2nd H. Burden (He), 3rd G. Hammond (G), 4th R. Grantham (Ha).
 [Height: 4 ft. 11 ins.]
 Long Jump [Record 17 ft. 10½ ins. B. J. Lucas 1949.]
 1st R. Grantham (Ha), 2nd C. Cockburn (M), 3rd C. McMillan (He), 4th G. Olson (Ha).
 [Distance: 17 ft. 6 ins.]
 Triple Jump [Record 35 ft. 8 ins. R. Thomas 1957.]
 1st R. Poulter (M), 2nd C. Cockburn (M), 3rd C. McMillan (He), 4th N. Campbell (Ha).
 [Distance: 35 ft. 4 ins.]
 Shot [Record 44 ft. 4 ins. A. J. Gibson 1958.]
 1st P. Bell (Ha), 2nd I. Kitching (G), 3rd M. Pratt (G), 4th M. Kennedy (M).
 [Distance: 39 ft. 1 in.]
 Discus [Record 122 ft. 11 ins. I. Clark 1958.]
 1st M. Clarke (M), 2nd A. Flynn (Ha), 3rd C. Hart (G), 4th K. Bates (Ha).
 [Distance: 119 ft. 14 ins.]
 Javelin [Record 151 ft. 10½ ins. I. Taylor 1960.]
 1st M. Stanborough (Ha), 2nd J. Latache (Ha), 3rd M. Massey (He), 4th N. Hodgson (He).
 [Distance: 126 ft. 0 ins.]
 Pole Vault [Record 7 ft. 9 ins. K. Robertson 1961.]
 1st M. Kennedy (M), 2nd B. Street (M), 3rd G. Clark (He), 4th D. Murtagh (Ha).
 [Height: 7 ft. 1½ ins.]
 Relay [Record 50.05 secs. Herschel 1957.]
 1st Hampden, 2nd Gray, 3rd Milton, 4th Herschel.
 [Time: 50.4 secs.]

CLASS III

100 yards [Record 11.9 secs. B. J. Lucas 1948.]
 1st J. Powrie (Ha), 2nd A. Ward (He), 3rd B. Cooke (Ha), 4th C. King (G).
 [Time: 11.9 secs. (Equals Record)]
 220 yards [Record 27.5 secs. R. E. Faulkner 1949.]
 1st J. Powrie (Ha), 2nd A. Ward (He), 3rd B. Cooke (Ha), 4th C. King (G).
 [Time: 27.8 secs.]
 Hurdles [Record 11.3 secs. R. Turner 1957.]
 1st K. Hampton (M), 2nd A. Jones (Ha), 3rd K. Dougan (He), 4th R. Bowyer (Ha).
 [Time: 12.0 secs.]
 High Jump [Record 4 ft. 9 ins. P. Griffiths 1959.]
 1st A. Jones (Ha), 2nd K. Hampton (M), 3rd R. Amoroso (He), 4th R. Bowyer (Ha).
 [Height: 4 ft. 5 ins.]
 Long Jump [Record 15 ft. 8½ ins. B. J. Lucas 1948.]
 1st J. Powrie (Ha), 2nd A. Jones (Ha), 3rd K. Dougan (He), 4th M. Moore (M).
 [Distance: 15 ft. 4 ins.]
 Triple Jump [Record 31 ft. 3½ ins. M. Elquezabal 1956.]
 1st K. Martin (He), 2nd F. Campbell (Ha), 3rd G. Low (Ha), 4th M. Moore (M).
 [Distance: 30 ft. 6 ins.]
 Discus [Record 96 ft. 4 ins. I. Taylor 1959.]
 1st A. Pell (Ha), 2nd M. Sherwood-Smith (G), 3rd C. Goodall (Ha), 4th S. Morton (He).
 [Distance: 86 ft. 5 ins.]
 Shot [Record 46 ft. 9 ins. I. Taylor 1959.]
 1st J. Powrie (Ha), 2nd B. Stout (Ha), 3rd I. Hughes (G), 4th R. Harris (G).
 [Distance: 32 ft. 9½ ins.]

Javelin [Record 136 ft. 1 in. I. Taylor 1959.]
 1st R. Willets (G), 2nd D. Rogerson (M), 3rd S. Morton (He), 4th B. Stout (Ha).
 [Distance: 84 ft. 3 ins.]
 Relay [Record 55.9 secs. Gray 1957 and 1961.]
 1st Hampden, 2nd Gray, 3rd Herschel, 4th Milton.
 [Time: 55.9 secs. (Equals Record)]
 Open Mile Handicap [Record from Scratch 4 mins. 50.8 secs. R. Walsley 1958.]
 1st R. Barrett, 2nd M. Rouse, 3rd S. Hatch, 4th R. Lang.
 [Time from Scratch: M. Rouse 4 mins 45.1 secs. (New Record)]

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP—JOHNSON CUP

1st Hampden, 2nd Herschel, 3rd Milton, 4th Gray.

DISTRICT SPORTS

UNDER 13

150 yards—Powrie 4th.
 High Jump—Hampton 5th.
 Long Jump—Dougan 4th.
 Shot—Hughes 6th.
 Discus—Sherwood-Smith 6th.
 Relay—4th.

UNDER 15

100 yards—Olson 5th.
 440 yards—Luckie 1st, Crawford 5th.
 1 Mile—Messenger 6th.
 Long Jump—Cockburn 5th, Hammond 6th.
 Triple Jump—Cockburn 3rd.
 High Jump—Hammond 3rd.
 Discus—Clark 1st.
 Pole Vault—Kennedy 2nd, Street 4th.

UNDER 17

100 yards—Harden 3rd, Holloway 4th.
 220 yards—Wood 1st, Harden 2nd.
 440 yards—Thomas 3rd, Barrett 4th.
 880 yards—Barrett 1st, Ramsdale 2nd.
 1 Mile—Rouse 2nd.
 High Jump—Godfrey 2nd, Perkins 4th.
 Long Jump—Johnson 1st, Alderman 2nd.
 Triple Jump—Johnson 1st, Rymel 2nd.
 Shot—Taylor 1st, Lister 3rd.
 Discus—Alderman 4th.
 Javelin—Taylor 1st, R. Smith 6th.
 Hurdles—C. Wood 1st, Coe 4th.
 Relay—Placed 2nd.
 Pole Vault—Holloway 1st, Edwards 3rd.

UNDER 19

100 yards—Thomas 1st.
 440 yards—P. Virgo 1st, J. Virgo 2nd.
 880 yards—D. Beer 1st, O'Leary 2nd.
 1 Mile—Beer 1st, Hinchcliffe 2nd.
 Pole Vault—Carritt 1st, Coleman 2nd.
 Long Jump—Thomas 1st, Le Page 2nd.
 Triple Jump—Hinchcliffe 2nd, Le Page 3rd.
 Shot—G. Thomas 1st, P. Virgo 3rd.
 Discus—P. Virgo 1st, O'Leary 2nd.

COUNTY SPORTS

(Held at Wolverton, 22nd June, 1963).

JUNIORS (13—15)

440 yards—Wallace 3rd.
880 yards—Luckie 1st.

INTERMEDIATES (15—17)

880 yards—Barrett 2nd.
1 Mile—Rouse 1st.
110 yards Hurdles—C. Wood 2nd.
Pole Vault—Holloway 1st.
Shot—Taylor 1st.
Javelin—Taylor 1st.
Discus—Gooch 4th.

SENIORS (17—19)

440 yards—P. Virgo 2nd, J. Virgo 4th.
880 yards—Beer 2nd.
1 Mile—Hinchcliffe 2nd.
Long Jump—Thomas 3rd.

ALL-ENGLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

JUNIORS

880 yards—J. Luckie.

INTERMEDIATES

880 yards—R. Barret.
1 Mile—M. Rouse.
Triple Jump—A. Johnson (Achieved standard distance).
Pole Vault—M. Holloway (Placed 6th and achieved standard height).

The school also entered teams in the Buckinghamshire County A.A.A. Youth (under 17) and Junior (under 19) meetings.

JUNIORS

Shot—Taylor 2nd.
880 yards—Barrett 2nd.
110 yards Hurdles—Wood 1st.
Triple Jump—Johnson 1st.
Javelin—Taylor 1st.
220 yards—Harden and Hester 4th equal.
1 Mile—Dilnot 5th.
Relay—Placed 4th.

The school team was placed 3rd behind Radcliffe and Dr. Challoner's G.S.

YOUTHS

Discus—Gooch 3rd, O'Leary 4th.
440 yards—Ramsdale 3rd, Virgo P. 4th.
880 yards—Ramsdale 4th.
Pole Vault—Holloway 1st, Carritt 3rd.
Triple Jump—Thomas 1st.
High Jump—O'Leary 4th.
Relay—Placed 2nd.

CRICKET, 1963

1st XI

May 8	School 58 for 9, Slough Technical 64	...	...	...	Drawn.
May 11	School 46, Sir William Borlase 86 for 9 dec.	...	...	...	Lost by 40 runs
May 15	School 57 for 5, Maidenhead Grammar School 55	...	...	...	Won by 5 wks.
May 25	School 117, Ranelagh Grammar School 153 for 4 dec.	...	...	...	Lost by 36 runs.
June 8	School 105 for 4, Old Paludians 104	...	...	...	Won by 6 wks.
June 15	School 99 for 2, Strodes School 95 for 6 dec.	...	...	...	Won by 8 wks.
June 22	School 86 for 8, Dr. Challoner's 82	...	...	...	Won by 2 wks.
July 13	School 26 for 2, Langley Grammar School 25	...	...	...	Won by 8 wks.
July 20	School 113, Parents 133 for 9 dec.	...	...	...	Lost by 20 runs.
July 22	School 84, Staff 34	...	...	...	Won by 50 runs.
	Wen 6	Lost 3	Drawn 1	Abandoned 1.	

AVERAGES

Batting:	D. Fox	91 runs at 18.20.	Bowling:	D. Fox	17 wks. at 4.76.
	M. Holder	66 runs at 16.50.		M. Holder	26 wks. at 5.73.
	C. Bass	171 runs at 15.67.		G. Bull	13 wks. at 10.07.
	R. Johnson	130 runs at 14.36.		R. Moore	11 wks. at 10.09.

The 1st XI lost only a few members from the previous year and looked forward to a very successful season. Unfortunately the great potential of this team only showed in a few games with the batting letting us down in the other games.

C. Bass captained the side well and is the youngest captain the 1st XI has ever had.

The team was supposed to have been a strong batting side although this was only seen in a few games. However, when our batting did have one of its better days it did extremely well, knocking up high scores. C. Bass and M. Bell opened the batting and, especially in mid-season, made a few good opening partnerships. R. Johnson, who followed at number three improved as the season progressed, culminating with a very commendable 44, the highest individual score of the season, against the parents. D. Fox, at number four, did not do quite as well as one would have hoped and seemed to go just when settling in. B. Whelan did not enjoy the success he had gained last year being rather unpredictable. P. Malone was the last of the recognised batsmen and only enjoyed moderate success. Once again the lower order batting contributed little to the scores, apart from the rather unorthodox style of M. Holder.

It was the bowling which formed the backbone of the side often leaving the batsmen an easy target to reach.

Once again M. Holder and G. Bull opened the bowling. M. Holder changed his style in mid-season, sacrificing speed for accuracy and claimed many valuable wickets. G. Bull bowled well and accurately but lacked the punch and temperament an opening bowler needs. Praise must be given to D. Fox who, although he bowled very little last season, took many wickets and was very economical for a spin bowler. R. Johnson, another spin-bowler, was not as successful as he was last season, bearing the brunt of a few forceful spells of batting. R. Moore, who claimed 51 wickets last season, was another of our stars who did not do very well this season. Thus the bulk of the bowling fell upon the shoulders of Holder, Bull and Fox.

A mention must be made of the wicket-keeping of M. Bell. He was extremely fast and agile, let through very few byes and had 13 dismissals to his credit in nine games.

I think it is fair to say that the 1st XI only met with moderate success due partly to a very short fixture list, but mainly to a lack of enthusiasm and the will to win.

M. T. HOLDER (Hon. Secretary).

UNDER 16 XI—HORLICKS CUP WINNERS

The Under 16 XI gained the honour of being the first team to win the Horlicks Cup—a trophy to be competed for each year by Slough and District Schools—after playing against Slough Technical School in the final of the competition.

The team entered the semi-final by a convincing win over Langley Secondary School:

School 111-3 dec. (A. Pell 66 not out, G. Walker 25 not out).

Langley Sec. 34-10 (T. Bray 4-5, G. Walker 4-10).

In the semi-final, School was drawn against Langley Grammar School. School again won easily.

Langley G.S. 38-10 (Olson 6-11).

School 39-3.

The final was played on the Horlicks ground, Slough Technical School batting first, and scoring 89-9 dec. G. Walker bowled splendidly from one end for the whole innings, taking 4-39.

The school team had a strong batting side down to the ninth man, and was able to reply confidently yet steadily. The winning four was hit by G. Olson with the second ball of the last over, giving a final score of 92-5 (M. Bell 22, C. Bass 17) and a well-judged five-wicket victory for School.

G. Roberts captained the team in the first round and C. Bass in the semi-final and the final.

The team was chosen from C. Bass, M. Bell, C. Avis, G. Roberts, G. Walker, A. Pell, G. Olson, B. Aherne, P. Cannings, D. Gleave, T. Bray, I. Kitching, P. B. Smith, M. Clark, P. Bloxham, R. Bull.

It is hoped that the achievement of the team and the standard of cricket it maintained will stimulate further successes for the school in this competition.

J. S. BOARDALL.

UNDER 15 XI

The team acquitted itself well, losing only one match in a season of one home and five away games. Two games were won and three were drawn.

Against strong opposition at William Borlase School and at Slough Technical School, the team showed its great spirit to force a draw on each occasion with one wicket to fall.

In the only home fixture School was in a commanding position but was denied the wicket required for victory by an early close of play.

The team gained its two victories at the expense of Abbotsfield and Langley G.S., and was comfortably defeated at Strodes.

The highlight of the batting was a restrained, purposeful 40 not out by G. Olson against Dr. Challoner's School.

I. Kitching—11 wickets at an average of 6.5, and D. Gleave—17 wickets at an average of 8.2, were the most successful bowlers.

The team was well captained by P. Cannings, and was selected from the following boys: B. Aherne, P. Bloxham, C. Avis, I. Kitching, C. McMillan, G. Olson, D. Gleave, M. Clark, J. Elder, R. Bull, R. Birtchnell, N. Hodgson, M. Hardwick, D. Webber, A. John and I. Cartwright acted as scorers.

J. S. BOARDALL.

TENNIS SIX

Once again the 1963 season proved to be very successful for the school Tennis VI, it was in fact the most successful season in the school's tennis history.

Out of the twelve matches played, all were won.

The school first pair B. Kelley and C. Timms remained unbeaten in all twelve matches and set a very high standard in doubles play. The school second pair B. Thorn and C. Weightman played consistently well, as did the

third pair of A. Singleton and R. Lister, two young players who showed their great potential this season.

In the L.T.A. 'Schools' Tournament at Wimbledon, the school regained the Ramsden Cup for the third year. B. Kelley played the singles matches and was partnered by C. Timms in the doubles. The school survived many hard, exciting matches to win the final by two rubbers to nil. In the under-15 tournament at Wimbledon we were represented by B. Aherne and A. John and did well to survive until the third round against such tough opposition.

It is hoped that this season will be as successful as the last and that more boys from the lower school will take to this sport.

B. KELLEY.

SOCCER 1963-4

1st XI

'So near, yet so far'

Seventeen games played without defeat, then the final match of the season, at Queen Mary's School, Basingstoke, lost by two goals to one. This is the success story of the 1st XI, a story with an unhappy ending.

Team members claim that they were unlucky to lose this particular match—they had territorial advantage throughout the game, and 'hit the woodwork' on four occasions—but this is football! They would also admit that they were fortunate not to be beaten by Ealing Grammar School.

A team enjoying so much success soon attracts attention; our reputation spread widely and the National Press reported on two of our matches. This was also the reason for some of our games being extremely tough affairs as our opponents had nothing to lose and everything to gain! After about 12 matches the strain was beginning to tell, and the usual fluent football was replaced by the desperate scrambling of a team trying too hard. A very fine 5-2 win over Bradfield College, however, finally restored the team's composure and confidence.

This was obviously a very good side. I hesitate to say the best ever, as senior members of the staff can also remember seasons without defeat, and opinion is divided. Its success was built on the all-round competence of regular team members and reserves—they played as a team. One individual did, however, bring out the best in all the others. Michael Bell was a will-o'-the-wisp, forever tormenting his opponents. He was to be found back in defence, calling for a short pass from a full-back under pressure; in the centre of the field, spraying out passes; and ready in the penalty area to finish off movements. He was capable of slowing down the game, restoring calm and purpose to the team's play; and when necessary, putting on the pressure.

Even a team having such a successful season has its failings. The major one apparent was the disinclination or inability of players to 'cover the ground' as did Bell. In many games this did not influence the result, as the team was so much superior to their opponents. On several occasions, however, more 'movement off the ball' i.e. intelligent movement when not in possession, would have made victory more easy and convincing.

Be aware of the positions of your own team and those of your opponents. Never stand still: if you are neither in possession, nor likely to be, then anticipate subsequent moves, taking up a more favourable position to create an opening or to cover your opponents. If the best you can do is cause a diversion, then go ahead, MOVE! Drawing the defenders' attention to yourself may create an opening for someone else.

Results Summary:

Played 18, won 16, drawn 1, lost 1. Goals for 84, against 23.

Characters of the Eleven:

Goalkeeper—R. LISTER: gave excellent service throughout the season. Cool in a tight corner, quick at interception, and seldom wasted an opportunity to get the attack moving.

Right-back—A. SINGLETON: developed into a really good defender. His quick covering and intelligent positional play 'saved the day' on many occasions.

Left-back—G. WALLACE: a newcomer to 1st XI football. Tackled strongly and used the ball effectively. Must curb a tendency to obstruct.

Right-half—M. HOLDER: an attacking wing-half who gave his forwards a tremendous amount of support. However, his enthusiasm often caused him to be caught out of position.

Left-half—C. BASS: also far happier when attacking and did on several occasions fill the inside-forward position. Having two such attacking wing halves caused the defence to look very fragile when strong opposition was encountered.

Outside-right—D. GODFREY: fast, direct and could shoot accurately with both feet. Working with close understanding with Bell, this was an extremely effective right-wing.

Inside-right—M. BELL: potentially a great footballer. He 'reads' the game well, has the capacity to spot the half chance and the skill to capitalise it.

Centre-forward—B. KELLEY: missed the first few games then made the position his own. Scored half of the team's 84 goals—possessed all the skills of the game, together with what is just as important, the knack of being in the right place at the right time.

Inside-left—R. BREEN: at inside-forward formed a double spearhead with Kelley; his powerful shooting brought many goals. Took on the rôle of schemer in the absence of Bell.

Outside-left—A. ALDERMAN: a fast raiding winger with a very powerful left-foot shot. Lacked the necessary 'bite' to beat a really determined defender.

Reserves: A. Quentin, K. Messenger, M. Holloway. All proved very able deputies and fitted into the team perfectly whenever required.

Centre-half and Captain—D. FOX: a good Captain, on and off the field, and very sound centre-half. His tackling was superb, but he was often caught out of position—he also suffered from over enthusiasm for attack.

J.G.M., D.F.

2nd XI

Over 100 goals were scored by the 2nd XI in a very successful season, which allows a more than favourable comparison with the excellent achievement of the school 1st XI.

School won 16 matches, drew 1 and lost 4—all of which were by only one goal—and what is most pleasing, while conceding 36 goals, scored 102; an average of 5 per match.

D. Hannigan and G. Hester received half-colours, while J. Trigg was re-awarded full colours, and captain J. Murray received full colours.

I. Kitching proved a reliable goalkeeper whose long kicks often proved the source of school's attacks.

The full-backs were D. Hannigan and J. Murray—both tackled hard and distributed the ball well.

The right-half was N. Campbell, a promising player with excellent ball control, tackling and distribution. J. Bostock, a newcomer to school football, filled the centre-half position—he soon settled down to give reliable service. The left-half was R. Grantham, a sound tackler, and a player with a very accurate long pass.

The forwards combined well and converted many half-chances. On the left wing G. Hester, a steady, direct player with a hard shot was leading goal-scorer with 26 goals. His inside partner, when not required for the 1st XI, was K. Messenger, a player able to control the ball with ease and open the tightest defence. Centre-forward G. Olson scored many goals with his strong shot and proved a forceful leader for the line. J. Trigg was the other inside-forward, who with his skill and experience engineered many of the goal-scoring chances. M. Donoghue and I. Cruickshank shared the right-wing position, both giving good service.

J. Murray proved to be an excellent captain, leading the team vigorously and capably at all times.

The team sustained few injuries and had consequently to call on few reserves. Special mention, however, must be made of J. Hamilton, a versatile player who always gave of his best in several appearances for the team. Thanks also go to our team manager, Mr. J. S. Boardall, who gave of his valuable time to attend meetings and organise team selection.

In conclusion, it must be stated that in a most enjoyable year's programme the team owed its great success to a fine team spirit and sense of purpose—a result of sustained effort from all concerned with the team.

UNDER 15 'A' XI

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	
				For	Against
9	6	1	2	29	9

The side started the season extremely well, winning games with ease. Changes then had to be made due to injury, and because of this the team went through a bad patch, losing two important games. Owing to difficulties experienced in trying to arrange games with other schools, the team was unable to play all its fixtures. Three players were selected to represent the district's eleven; Avis, Clark and Poulter (who was captain of the school's side). These players were outstanding in all their games for the school.

The team: M. Paxton; M. Pratt, J. Powrie; C. Avis, M. Clark, R. Poulter; G. Crawford, B. Eaglestone, W. Manners, K. Hampton, C. Mansfield.

Reserves: A. Moore, D. Webber, C. Pratt.

UNDER 15 'B' XI

The team enjoyed a moderately successful season, completing their league programme with only two defeats, and finishing in third place in the Senior Central League. Though credit must go to every member of the side, one must single out P. Bloxham, who not only led the side throughout the season, but also took upon himself much of the administrative work.

Other regular players were R. Smith, M. S. Smith, J. Elder, F. McFall, A. Moore, C. Pratt, D. Webber, S. Hatch, M. Naylor, J. Cooney and K. Franklin.

G.H.E.

UNDER 13 'A' XI

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals	
				For	Against
14	5	3	6	29	32

The 1963-64 season was a very satisfying one for the Under 13 XI, in spite of the moderate playing record. The opposing teams were nearly all composed of second year boys, and at this stage, size and strength can often prove decisive factors. Even so the Under 13 XI played excellent football, and were never outclassed in any of their matches. The performances of the large number of first year boys in the team all promise well for the future.

The team was set an untiring example by the captain, T. Lewin, who played outstandingly well throughout the season. Others who deserve praise for their consistent performances are Giles in goal, Pitcher, Scattergood, Agnew and Chilcott.

The team, which should enjoy a profitable season next year, was usually selected from: K. Giles, J. Beconsfield, R. Wood, T. Lewin (capt.), A. Pitcher, S. Scattergood, A. Watterson, T. Agnew, J. Campbell, N. Chilcott, K. Godfrey.

UNDER 13 'B' XI

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
10	6	1	3	34	13

After a poor start—losing their first two games—the team settled down into a workmanlike combination and did not lose again until the final match. In the League they finished close behind the winners, William Penn. Their final defeat was probably, however, their best performance for playing on a heavy pitch with eight men they lost by the only goal to Warrenfield. As this was a team effort it would not be fair to single out individuals but it should be said that Littlefair was an enthusiastic and vociferous captain.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

SENIORS

This season the Senior Cross-Country Running Team had more fixtures than in any other previous year, with every available Wednesday in both the Autumn and Spring terms being occupied with a match and many of these being triangulars and even 4-sided fixtures. Out of the 23 matches, 13 were won and 4 were lost, the remainder were 3 or 4-sided fixtures in which the school was placed 2nd and 3rd. It is hard to believe that in 1959, only 5 years ago, the school had 9 fixtures. The increase in matches must surely be due to the hard work of Mr. Madge, whose enthusiasm and devotion to running has enabled the sport to reach such a high standard in the school.

The team was lucky in not feeling too badly the effects of losing several good runners from the previous season. Amongst the notable victories this year was the defeat of Wycombe Royal G.S. and R.A.F., Halton, two very strong teams. In Dr. Challoner's cross-country relay, out of 21 competing teams, the school came 3rd, behind the much fancied Dr. Challoner's G.S. and Selhurst, the latter only beating school by 1 sec. Once again, the school won the District Championships. This year's run was over a very flat but mud-bound course at Pinewood Studios.

Colours rewarded to: P. Hinchcliffe, M. Rouse, C. Ramsdale and E. Thomas.

New Colours awarded to: D. Dilnot and R. Barrett.

Half Colours awarded to: G. Spellman.

M. ROUSE

Team Personalities

P. Hinchcliffe: A reliable and hard working captain. He has served the team well over the last three years but his performance has been a little erratic recently owing to less than 100% fitness and pressure of other commitments.

M. Rouse: A dedicated runner who has been winning races for the school since he was in the First Form and has run for the senior team for the last four years. This season he has been the team's most consistent and successful performer. It was extremely bad luck that, after coming 3rd in the County Championships, he was prevented by an injury from going to the All-England Championships. I am most grateful for his efficiency and hard work as Secretary.

E. Thomas: He has improved steadily in the three years he has been running for the school. This season his regular training and determination brought him into the County Team at the All-England Championships, where he was placed 5th in the team.

D. Dilnot: He has had many fine runs to his credit—the winning of the Buckinghamshire A.A.A. Youths' Championship, being amongst his best. He remains an individualist; as a team runner he is a little too unpredictable.

R. Barrett: Another veteran of the team with some outstanding runs, particularly over shorter courses. A mid-season bout of 'flu from which he was slow to recover, prevented him gaining a place in the County Team.

C. Ramsdale: A very useful and long-standing member of the team who was chosen as a reserve for the County Team. I doubt whether his full potential has yet been reached, for his training was less rigorous than it might have been.

P. Spellman: A new-comer to the team who ran steadily through most of the season, though he will have to improve next year if he is to approach the standard of those who are leaving.

R. Parrish: He has maintained his place in the team but he has rarely achieved a scoring position.

D.S.M.

INTERMEDIATES AND JUNIORS

The usual division between these two teams has been blurred this season by the introduction of new age qualifications by the Schools' Athletic Board, while our own inter-school matches have been based on old age levels. This has resulted in the composition of our under-15 and under-13 teams being considerably varied. But by and large it has been a successful season in all age groups.

In the inter-school matches the Intermediates (under-15) ran six and won four, losing once to Langley G.S. and Dr. Challoner's. The two most successful runners in the team have been A. Moore and S. Hatch, while F. McFall, E. Froggatt, M. Moore, W. Manners, B. Goodall, M. Cooper, B. Cooke have all run regularly. In the Inter-School Relay, organised by Langley Grammar School, our team of Hatch, A. Moore, M. Moore, Froggatt, did well to come 4th out of about fifteen entries.

The under-13 team won all but one of their matches and showed great keenness and promise. Much of the credit here goes to a large group of boys in 2C, who provided seven regular members of the team, M. Price, S. Shears, R. Twardawa, E. Pelling, J. Phear, P. Wilson, A. Tyrie and R. Parker as reserve. C. Hague (2 A) was the eighth member. The talent in the First Form was promising, but few showed sufficient keenness to turn up regularly to practices. Nevertheless, good performances in matches were put up by A. Doig, P. Ellis, S. Lavelle, A. Pickett and R. Wilson.

The new age qualifications came into force for the District Sports, held this year for the first time in Black Park. The under-17 team composed of runners from the IVth and Vth Forms did well to finish first, six points ahead of Langley, especially as several boys had been too old for the regular under-15 team and not had much practice. The team consisted of: A. Moore (captain), N. Campbell, F. McFall, K. Messenger, W. Manners, C. Morffew and G. Wallace.

The under-15 team was a mixture of the old under-15 and under-13 teams, and had a most impressive victory taking the first three individual places (Hatch, Froggatt, M. Moore), and finishing more than 70 points ahead of their nearest rival. The rest of the team consisted of: M. Price, E. Pelling, B. Goodall, S. Shears and R. Twardawa.

As a result of these two races, A. Moore, McFall, Morffew, Hatch, Froggatt, M. Moore and Price represented Slough at the County Championships.

Hatch (2nd) and Froggatt (8th) did well enough to be chosen to represent Buckinghamshire at the National Championships—a very creditable achievement.

D.S.M.

RUGBY CLUB

The School's Rugby team achieved little success in the 1963-64 season as far as results are concerned. Out of the 17 matches played three were won and the rest resulted in defeats except for one drawn game (131 points for, and 192 against).

The basic cause of this was the loss of many useful players from the previous season's team, in fact only six of this year's team had previous match experience. It was therefore most pleasing to note how the inexperienced players gradually blended into a useful team, and many of the matches were lost by the odd point or two. It must be noted that of the last six matches played, three were won, one drawn, and only two lost. Never throughout the season did the team give up hope and the enthusiasm eventually brought victory.

The forwards formed a heavy pack, ably led by R. Smith who set an excellent example to the rest of the team by his hard and fast play. H. Field improved as the season progressed and often proved his worth in the loose scrums. H. Smith's defensive play at wing forward must also be noted.

In the backs, P. Bradley, at scrum-half, was very useful and he, together with C. Pryce at stand-off, combined well to begin many good movements. B. Higginson played soundly throughout the season. P. B. Smith proved to be a very capable full-back. The rest of the team, by their enthusiasm for the game, completely made up for the lack of skill.

Once again next season the School Rugby Team will be very depleted by the loss of most of this season's players. Skill is not important, this develops through the season, but enthusiasm is all important.

Finally, many thanks to Mr. Shields for his time spent in refereeing many of the home matches, and for his interest in the team. Also, thanks to Mr. Henderson who proved an able coach on many occasions.

Full Colours re-awarded to: B. Higginson and C. Pryce.

Colours awarded to: P. B. Smith, H. Smith, P. Bradley.

Half-Colours awarded to: H. Field and P. Dando.

C. PRYCE.

HOCKEY

Captain: D. Stenning. Vice-Captain: P. Robson.

Secretary: B. Walker.

This year the School Hockey XI had a successful season, playing twenty-one games of which thirteen were won, six lost and two drawn. 54 goals were scored and only 21 conceded.

Of the team, Stenning, Robson, Rowe, Walker, Fountain, Roberts and Pell had played for the school last season and Aherne, Lang, Boul, Parker and Fraser were newcomers.

The season started very well—no match being lost in the Autumn Term. Of the many fixtures during this term the most notable were victories over Rickmansworth G.S. and High Wycombe Royal G.S. Meeting stronger opposition during the Spring Term, the team lost most of the six matches only by the odd goal.

At the close of the season the school managed to defeat Old Pals XI. Thanks go to Old Pals for encouraging members of the team to play for them at the week-ends and thus providing the opportunity of gaining experience.

D. Stenning, the captain, and R. Fountain the goalkeeper, were chosen to play for the County at the Seaford Tournament, and Fountain received a further honour when he was chosen to play for the South of England.

Colours were awarded to: P. Robson, D. Stenning and R. Fountain.

Half-Colours were re-awarded to: K. Rowe, B. Walker and G. Roberts.

Half-Colours were awarded to: A. Pell, B. Aherne and R. Lane.

B. WALKER.

BASKETBALL

Now that the new gymnasium is available, with its excellent facilities for basketball, the school team has been able to reform.

The team under the guidance of Mr. Henderson, has played five matches, winning two and losing three. This is a most encouraging start, as the team, though enthusiastic, is rather inexperienced. The Vth Form provided the majority of players and this augurs well to the formation of an experienced team, if these boys continue into the VIth Form, and practise together.

At the same time basketball is being encouraged in the lower forms of the school so that there will be no shortage of competent players.

Finally, our thanks must be extended to Mr. Henderson, who has given his time freely in coaching this new venture.

Results: School score first.

v Windsor	24-68
v Slough Technical	70-40
v Langley G.S.	21-43
v St. Joseph's	35-32
v Windsor G.S.	14-60

Players who represented school: A. Alderman, E. Thomas, K. Messenger, G. Olson, G. Wallace, A. Weller, G. Hester, P. Hinchliffe, N. Campbell.

SWIMMING

*'A solitary shriek, the bubbling cry
Of some strong swimmer in his agony.'*

Lord Byron

(who is reputed to have been something of a swimmer himself).

Over the years, the Swimming Club has had several periods of 'lean harvests'; we seem to be in such a period now, for the results achieved have not even reached those of last year. It is hard to find any reason other than lack of determination and staying power in our 'good' swimmers—few are prepared to keep up a steady training programme. Perhaps the reply to 'Please, sir, may I join the Swimming Club?', will have to be 'Which event will you train for?'

Our Senior team for the gala in November was almost the same as last year's Intermediate team: Michael Paxton, Richard Chaplin, Ian Hughes and David Rogerson; despite valiant efforts, they were unable to gain a place in the final results. Peter Griffiths repeated his success of the previous season in winning the 100 yds. Open Championship; this gave him a place in the Slough team for the County gala at Aylesbury.

There were too few able swimmers to make up a team for the Intermediate gala in March; Richard Thomas and Bogarlaw Szulc gave a good account of themselves, but were not placed in their events.

ROWING

Rowing remains esoteric in the extreme, some half-dozen V1th Formers avoiding Wednesday games, but a mere two, Martyn Baker and myself making any further efforts, attending the club several times each week for a programme of training which includes running, weight training and circuits, as well as actual rowing. As members of Eton Excelsior four and eight-oared boats we have had several races this year, including one on the notorious Tideway and another against the neighbouring Beaumont College. The competition season proper opened with the Hammersmith Regatta, the first time, I believe, that members of our school have participated in a full season, though last year Doug. Garner and Dave Morris did race in a four with us in the Club Regatta, an event marked chiefly by us ramming a dinghy and sinking ourselves. I hope that in future fresh oarsmen, attracted by the prospect of evading games, will become involved in this sedentary sport to which Dr. Colombo provides such an insidiously attractive introduction.

A. BIEBUYCK.

NEWS FROM THE OLD BOYS

THE OLD PALUDIANS

The position at the Clubhouse has been further considered and our financial position is now 'breaking even'. In fact, we now hope to net funds aside each year to repay the Company's overdraft as soon as possible. The mortgage obtained by the Trustees to finance the building of the Clubhouse is being progressively reduced each year and the additional land obtained from Friary Meux Ltd., adjoining Pope's Field, has now been levelled and seeded. It is hoped that a further football pitch will be in use for the season 1965/6.

Our thanks are due to all of those who contributed to the ground appeal fund, thus enabling this development to be effected. One result, however, will be that the changing facilities will be insufficient and we shall need to seek ways of raising further finance to overcome this difficulty. Provided support and enthusiasm of members continues as hitherto, I see no reason to suppose that this problem will not be overcome.

We were sorry to lose Mr. Collin as our Chairman and a trustee, last December, and welcome John Griffith to that position, the first time an 'Old Boy' has ever been elected. Mr. Collin fulfilled this task for 17 years, during which time the major developments in the Club took place. Our heartiest thanks for his past services and best wishes for the future are due to him. To mark his retirement as Chairman, he was presented with a silver tankard suitably engraved, at the Chairman's Annual Buffet Supper held at the Club at Easter.

Our membership continues to increase and we hope to see more of those leaving school this summer joining our ranks. Please write to me at Pope's Field, Berry Hill, Taplow, or obtain an envelope form from Mr. Collin. I can assure you that a hearty welcome awaits you all.

S. W. JONES (Hon. Secretary).

THE OLD PALUDIANS HOCKEY CLUB

Perhaps the most notable feature of the 1963/4 season as compared with last, was the fact that only three games were lost to bad weather. The season was a very mixed one for the Club with the 1st XI winning only nine of their twenty-six games, losing thirteen, eight by the odd goal, and drawing the other four. Once again the chief problems have lain in the forward line whilst the defence has remained solid and reliable.

A fact worth recalling in Second Team hockey was the eight goals scored in one match by Neville Shave against Wallington, which is a Club record.

Many schoolboys have played this season for the Club, Jack Stenning turning out regularly for the 1st XI. He and Bert Fountain were members of the successful Bucks Schoolboys team who won the Charles Gebbie Tournament at Seaford. The Club is particularly grateful to Derek Eagle of Slough Hockey Club for his hard work in this direction.

1st XI skipper Jimmy Osborne, who finished the season in fine style by getting married, represented the Club in County hockey.

The Committee are still very concerned at the lack of recruits to the Club. If we are to remain a true old boys' club, drawing members only from the school, which is our wish, then we must have more playing members. Any boy leaving school, or any who has left and would like a game of hockey on a Saturday afternoon, is very earnestly asked to contact Team Secretary, John Williams at 21 Kenderick Road, Slough. Telephone Slough 23506.

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A limited number of vacancies occur every year for those boys wishing to enter the Cadet Force with a view to joining the Regular Force when they are 19 years of age.

For further details, please write to:—

The Chief Constable of Bucks.,
Chief Constable's Office,
Aylesbury.

Woodward & Stalder

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